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C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

M. F. EGAN, Business Manager.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Select-ed the Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IX. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1871. NO. 93.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DISCONTINUANCES.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders the paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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FIRST EDITION.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

LONDON, December 25.—His Majesty the Emperor William of Germany will probably visit the Czar of Russia, in St. Petersburg, during the coming spring.

The German expedition to Venezuela will be commissioned to enforce the national claims against the Government of the South American republic.

MADRID, December 25.—The meeting of the Cortes has been postponed until the 10th of January.

Admiral Topete, Minister of Colonies, has announced his intention of making reforms in the volunteer organization in Havana.

Reinforcements continue to go forward to aid in the suppression of the insurrection.

PARIS, December 25.—Members of the Right Centre in the National Assembly, having made overtures to the Legitimists for a coalition, the latter, in reply, say they will coalesce, but, at the same time, will reserve their independence. They also announce their disapproval of the Orleanist Princes as leaders.

LONDON, December 25.—To-day is being observed as a holiday. The markets are closed and business is wholly suspended.

The Sublime Porte, backed by Russia and Austria, is sharply pressing the Government of the Danubain principalities for settlements of the railway obligations.

Marine News.

BREST, December 25.—The steamship Periere, from New York, has arrived, making the trip in eight days and fourteen hours.

LONDON, December 25.—The steamship City of Paris, Atlantic, Calabria and Rhein, from New York, have arrived out; also, Sarmatia from Portland.

A MYSTERY.

An Ohio Lady Dies Very Suddenly in Chicago—A Chase After the Corpse—Foul Play Suspected—Is There a Rosenzweig in the Case.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LIMA, O., December 26, 1871.

William Shorb, a baggage master on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, left Chicago Saturday on the day express, having in charge the corpse of Mrs. McCoy, who, it seems, died very suddenly there under suspicious circumstances. He was arrested upon his arrival at Crestline, on a telegram from Chicago officers, and after an examination was released for the arrival of the officers. He made it appear at the examination that she (Mrs. McCoy) was in Chicago buying goods, was taken suddenly ill and died, he doing all in his power for her. He also presented a certificate from the Health officer in Chicago, stating who the physician was that waited upon her, &c. He left Crestline this morning, bringing the corpse here with him, the sister and mother of the deceased and other relatives accompanying him, who purposed conveying the remains to St. Mary's, Ohio, for burial. The officers arriving in Crestline and learning the state of affairs, telegraphed to Lima at once to the City Marshal to hold Shorb and the corpse at all hazards until they arrived in the next train. This was accordingly done. Upon their arrival here they took the prisoner with the corpse on board the train to Chicago, to hold an investigation. The officers declare that the corpse was seen to come out of a well-known assignation house there, and that there has been foul play either by poison or an abortion. Shorb has been waiting on the woman some length of time, and her friends state that they were engaged to be married soon. She had recently moved to Crestline and purchased a millinery store there, hence the statement that she was in Chicago buying goods. Shorb is a young man, probably twenty-five years old, and has heretofore bore a very good character. Mrs. McCoy was a widow, thirty years of age, had two children, and is said to have been quite prepossessing in appearance.

THE OIL REGIONS.

New Well in the Peterburg District.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PARKER'S LANDING, PA., December 26.

The Riddle well struck the sand on Saturday morning, and immediately commenced flowing. Shortly after she took fire, and the driller, Perry Ross, was badly burned. After the fire was extinguished she continued to flow with the tools and cable in the well. She has the appearance of making the largest well in the Peterburg district. This well is owned by G. W. Ralph and C. E. Riddle, of Parker, and William D. Moore and H. Campbell, of Allegheny City.

Sad Case of Drowning at Wellsville, O.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WELLSVILLE, O., December 25, 1871.

A very distressing accident occurred at this place to-day at about half past one o'clock. Two boys, named Lafayette Bennett and Partington, while skating just below the wharf boat, broke through the ice, and both were drowned. Partington, who was about eight years of age, and who resides in Wellsville, first broke through the ice. Bennett, who resides in East Liverpool, and who was about eighteen years old, in endeavoring to rescue Partington from a watery grave, was also himself dragged under. Every effort was made by the citizens to rescue them from drowning, but all was unavailable. Partington was found about a half hour after he was drowned, and taken to his home in East Liverpool. Partington's body was also found about five o'clock.

Burning of G. A. Wood's House at Wheatland Pa.—Two Girls Perish in the Flames.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEATLAND, December 25, 1871.

A residence of this place belonging to C. A. Wood, of Pittsburgh, was burned on Saturday night. Two servant girls were burned in the house. The high wind blowing at the time carried burning brands over into the town, and burned two small houses, and also set fire to the boiler houses of the furnaces; but they were saved. Loss on Wood's house, $25,000; insurance, $15,000.

Fire at the Briceland House, Canonsburg, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CANONSBURG, PA., December 26, 1871.

The Briceland House in this place caught fire to-day from a defective flue, and the entire building was threatened with destruction, but after the most determined efforts on the part of the citizens, it was saved. Mr. Briceland's loss is not less than one thousand dollars. There was no insurance, the policy having expired on the 16th of this month.

Damage by the Storm, at Shamburg, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SHAMBURG, PA., December 26, 1871.

During the severe gale, on Saturday evening, some thirty oil derricks were blown down, two engine houses burned, and one big boiler exploded, at and about Shamburg. The explosion was caused by the derrick falling on the big boiler house, closing the safety valve, which also caused the fire at each engine house.

Safe Works at Canton to be Rebuilt.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CANTON, O., December 25, 1871.

A meeting of the citizens of Canton was held this afternoon, at which over one thousand days' labor were tendered for the rebuilding, free of charge, of the iron safe works of Diebold & Kenzle, which were blown down by the gale of Saturday. A Committee was also appointed to increase the number of days to two thousand or more.

Fatal Accident to a Drunken Man at Bourbon, Ind.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BOURBON, IND., December 26, 1871.

Edward Helsel fell from his wagon yesterday (Christmas) while in a fit of intoxication. His head came in contact with a sharp stick, which penetrated the brain, causing instant death. Deceased was a farmer, residing three miles north of this place.

THROUGH A BRIDGE.

Accident to a Western Railroad Train—Three Men Killed—Heroic Actions.

CHICAGO, December 26.—A letter from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, dated yesterday, says: As the St. Paul express, on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railroad, about seven o'clock Saturday evening, was crossing the Shell Rock river near the town of Rockford, in the northern part of the State, the bridge gave way, precipitating into the stream two locomotives with their tenders, and also a baggage and caboose car, a distance of twenty-five feet. The engineer of the first locomotive, E. I. Judd, was instantly killed by being buried beneath his engine, while the fireman escaped unharmed. The engineer of the second locomotive, on the other hand, escaped, while his fireman, Robert Ralston, was killed. A brakeman, at his post between the baggage and passenger coach, J. W. Bartlett, was also killed. The baggage man and a section hand had their legs broken. A gentleman by the name of A. Downe had three of his ribs fractured, while a few others were variously hurted. Fortunately, the passenger coach was stopped just in time to prevent it plunging with the rest, thus saving the inmates. Mr. Towne, with his broken bones, picked up the baggage master and drew him to the upper end of the car, which stood on a steeply inclined plane, where he was taken out of the window by the conductor. Mr. Towne then sank himself from exhaustion, and was rescued by some one crawling in after him. By the greatest exertion on the part of J. B. Loomis and E. D Sill, the two conductors of the train, it was saved from fire by the rubbing on of snow, after it was several times ablaze, although they both froze their hands in doing so. Had it burned with the wounded inside, the result would have been horrible, indeed. The bridge was a Howe truss. The two engines were on the train on account of the heavy drifts of snow. It is feared the bridge had been tampered with by some evil-disposed persons.

TRIAL OF MRS. WHARTON.

Testimony of a Chemist—Metalic Antimony Found.

ANNAPOLIS, December 26.—The Wharton trial was resumed to-day. O. P. Torey, analytical chemist, was called to the stand and proceeded to detail the results of several experiments made by him in his analysis of the liver of Gen. Ketchum, made since Wednesday last. Each indicated antimony; the first process resulted in his obtaining from that portion of solution used in experiments six-tenths of a grain of metalic antimony. Judging by this test and its result, the whole quantity in the solution in the liver, or the contents of a large jar handed him by Dr. Williams, contained from one-half to three-fourths of a grain of antimony.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 26, 1871, 7:39 P.M.)

PROBABILITIES.

The area of cold and clearing weather, with northerly winds, will probably move eastward on Wednesday over the lakes, and extend southward to Tennessee; the area of cloudy and threatening weather pass north-eastward over the Middle and Eastern States, possibly with light snow, or rain and light; partially cloudy and threatening weather on Wednesday in the Gulf and South Atlantic States, with rain in Alabama and Louisiana. Dangerous winds are not anticipated for this evening.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Grand Duke Alexis made a tour of Buffalo Christmas afternoon. He also visited Fort Porter and received an appropriate salute.

City Marshal Drury, of Boston, was stabbed several times Christmas morning, while quelling a disturbance. He shot one of the rioters, wounding him severely.

In spite of the notification of the trustees of the Hunter's Point school, the Board of Commissioners insist that the principal shall take no notice of the prohibition of Bible reading during school hours.

On Friday night and Saturday last California was visited by a great rain storm, accompanied by a southwest gale, doing great damage. Rain fell to the depth of 15.30 inches in less than 100 hours last year. The whole country opposite Sacramento was flooded, and half of Stockton, Gilroy and San Jose submerged. There was also great damage to shipping on the northern coast. A later dispatch states that the reclamation of the levees and dumps in the lake lands of San Joaquin and Sacramento river withstood the storm, and that the reclamation enterprise is now received with much favor.

Mr. Potter, one of the early settlers of Omaha, has purchased a valuable library as a gift to that city.

Jesse R. Grant, the President's father, does not improve. He fails to recognize friends, and his recovery is considered doubtful.

Mr. Sturdevant, wife of the Superintendent of the Institute for the Blind, at Memphis, was fatally burned on Christmas by the explosion of a coal oil lamp.

In Salina, Kansas, on Sunday, twelve buildings were destroyed by fire, involving a loss of from $60,000 to $100,000. Insurance small.

C. S. May, Secretary of State of Oregon, has decamped, and is supposed to be a defaulter to the amount of $14,000. An officer has been dispatched to Salt Lake to arrest him.

Mayor Joseph Medill has written a letter to the Grand Duke Alexis, inviting him to visit that city and its ruins. The Grand Duke replied, accepting the invitation.

A beautiful theater is now being prepared in connection with the National Asylum for soldiers and sailors, at Milwaukee, with adequate scenery, etc.

A London correspondent of a New York paper, says it is possible that Scott Russell's idea of bringing together the peers and proletariate in a new alliance may be consummated. A strong desire exists on the part of several representative workingmen to carry out the project. The two Councils will probably meet shortly, if they have not already met, and come to some further arrangement with respect to their future course.

Some of the Chicago police think they are on the scent of a Rosenzweig bowsiqe case. They regard it as a matter of such grave importance as to malatain entire secrecy as to the facts.

A dispatch from Rawlins Station, on the Pacific Railroad, reports that no trains have passed either way since the 21st, with no prospect for any for two or three days. Laramie station reports no trains since Saturday. Three trains are laying there for the west.

There were only seventy-nine deaths reported in St. Louis last week, not a single one from small pox.

Rev. W. C. Wallace was shot and killed at Atlanta, Columbia county, Arkansas, on the 20th, by a man named Shellman who had been reproved by him for using insulting language to his (Wallace's) family. The murderer escaped.

A dispatch from Little Rock, Arkansas, says Conway Barbour, colored, Assessor of Chicot county, arrived there yesterday. He was at Lake Village when Wynn and the three parties charged with killing him were shot. He left there on Friday and says everything was quiet there. No excesses had been committed, and the officers of the law have complete control of affairs. The Governor had not yet heard from his dispatches, but would wait for a report from him before taking any action.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 26.

THE RIVER OPEN.

The Hudson River is again open for navigation most of its length. All the ferries have resumed their trips. The George Law Newburg cannot leave more than a few hours. The floating toe below Newburg is but little or no impediment to navigation.

CONSOLIDATED AT LAST IN JAIL.

It is rumored that one of Connolly's bondsmen for a large portion of the half million has signified his intention to relinquish his bail, and it is probable that Connolly will pass New Year's in jail.

FUNERAL OF SIDNEY R. MORSE.

The funeral services of Sidney R. Morse, at the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, were largely attended. Professor Morse, the only survivor of four brothers, was present. Among the pall-bearers were Wm. Cullen Bryant and Dr. A. S. Prime. The remains were interred in Greenwood.

TRANSFER OF ERIE STOCK.

The Erie Commissioners have issued, in the presence of Master in Equity White, thirty-five thousand shares to Heath and Raphael. It is expected the balance of three hundred shares, now pending, converted by the Erie officials will be delivered this week.

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR CHICAGO.

Henry L. Hoquet received $5,500 from the people of France, as a Christmas gift to the Chicago sufferers, of which Mayor Medill has been duly notified.

ROBBERY CONFESSED.

[There was an extraordinary scene in the Court of Oyer and Terminer to-day. Edward Mahony and George Williamson voluntarily confessed themselves guilty of a robbery for which two other men were convicted. All were remanded for investigation.

On Saturday last, Governor Geary appointed A. C. Reinehl, of Lancaster county, Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth, vice J. M. Weakley, elected State Senator. Col. Reinehl was a member of the Legislature for three successive sessions, where he displayed considerable ability and established a reputation for unimpeachable integrity. In his new position he will add to his reputation as an able officer if he is now received with half the manly courtesy.—*State Journal.*

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THE NEW HAVEN *Palladium* says: "The schooner Madison Holmes, Capt. Bayits, is loading at Belle dock for Key West, with a cargo of ice for consumption in that warm climate. The vessel is employed by Hartford parties at $1,000 a month. The tobacco will not be discharged, but on arriving at its destination the vessel will lay at anchor for one or two months, while the sweating process of curing is going on, simply the sweating hatches in the morning and replacing them at night. It is stated that the rest of two required to sweat tobacco in this climate can be accomplished in as many months here; also that the air gives the tobacco the peculiar flavor of genuine Havana.

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SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Pressure of Clerical Appointments.

A Comparison of Defalcations.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 26, 1871.

Mr. Bristow's Withdraws His Resignation.

Upon the special request of the President Solicitor General Bristow to-day withdrew his resignation.

A Comparison of Defalcations.

Senator Wilson expects, before his return from Massachusetts, to prepare a speech comparing the defalcations made during this administration with those of its predecessors, with the object of showing that they are far less in proportion to the moneys disbursed than at any time within twenty years.

Pressure for Clerical Appointments.

It is stated at several departments that the pressure now being made for clerical appointments under the Government is beyond all precedent. The reason alleged is the fear on the part of applicants that they can not pass examination under the new civil service regulations, and desire to be appointed before the latter go into effect.

Badly Demoralized.

Facts which have been developed in the case of De Large show a bad state of demoralization all around. De Large gave his attorney to understand that if he would work up his case, he would provide for the payment of the latter out of his pay as a member of Congress. The attorney spent about six hundred dollars of his private funds in obtaining evidence, which De Large refused to pay, as also another bill of sixteen hundred dollars for services rendered by the same lawyer. On inquiry of the Sergeant-at-Arms, the attorney found that De Large had not only drawn his pay up to date, but also all arrearages for mileage, etc. The attorney now proposes to hold back all evidence, and allow Bowen to take the contested seat.

The Bumptious Boy of Chicamanga Promoted.

John L. Clem, the drummer boy of Chicamanga, called at the White House this morning to tender his thanks to the President for his appointment to a Second Lieutenancy in the Twenty-fourth Infantry. In a letter to the President he says: "With the help of God I will try to render myself worthy of the position."

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 25, 1871.

Bristow's Resignation Not Accepted.

Quite a number of prominent politicians, with several legal gentlemen of high standing, have been using their influence through the day to have Solicitor General Bristow withdraw his resignation, and as yet the President has not accepted it.

WASHINGTON, December 26, 1871.

THE TAX ON DIVIDENDS, ETC.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue, in a communication to the Secretary of the Treasury, says he is of opinion that the amount of taxes paid or payable upon dividends, interest and undivided profits of corporations for the last five months of the calendar year will not be less than two millions.

EVIDENCE WANTED IN THE TICHBORNE CASE.

A communication has been received at the Treasury Department from counsel for the defendants in the celebrated Tichborne case, in which the Secretary is asked to furnish him all the information in his possession concerning the whereabouts in certain months in 1854 of all registered vessels of the United States bearing the name of Asprey. It will be recollected that in the evidence in this case it was shown that the claimant for the Tichbone estates was a passenger in an English vessel named Bella, which foundered off Rio, on the Brazilian coast, and that he was picked up, among others, by the captain of an American vessel named the Asprey.

SAD CASUALTY.

Three Brothers Break Through the Ice While Skating—Two of Them Drowned.

The festivities of Christmas day were sadly interrupted at Beaver Falls by the drowning of two little boys, while skating on Beaver river. About eight o'clock in the morning, while a number of boys were amusing themselves skating—among whom were three brothers named Craft, sons of Reuben Craft, an engineer in J. Arnold & Co.'s Bargy office—broke the ice gave way, and all three sunk in the water. The youngest was rescued, but the bodies of the other two were not recovered for nearly two hours. They were aged respectively nine and eleven years, the latter named after Benjamin Franklin. Breathless anxiety, and the distressed family received the condolence of large numbers of citizens.

Fatal Accident.

Yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, Felix Donahue, a driver in the employ of Messrs. Arnstrong, was almost instantly killed by being run over by his own wagon. He was coming down Fifth avenue, near the Relief Engine House, with a load of coke, drawn by three mules, when he fell, became fractious and started to run. Donahue, who was running beside his wagon, undertook to throw on the brake, when he stumbled and fell under the wagon. The hind wheel passed over his abdomen, injuring him so severely that he died soon after arriving in his door and saw the occurrence. He and Dr. Allinder ran at once to the spot, picked up the man, and carried him into the engine house. As they reached him he said "That will do," and tried to stand up. He lived about five minutes after being taken into the engine house. The man was not intoxicated at the time of the occurrence. The remains were removed to the Central Station-house, where Coroner West held an inquest. A verdict of accidental death was rendered. Deceased was an Irishman, about forty years of age, and unmarried. He boarded at the house of Patrick Hughes, at Soho.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

The members of the Gymnasium hold their first election of officers, under the new charter, at the hall on Third avenue, this morning, at nine o'clock, a. m.

The Union Methodist Church, Allegheny, was thronged on Christmas evening by an audience composed of children and adults. Religious exercises appropriate to the occasion were performed, and after which a large Christmas tree was lighted up, and large packages of sweetmeats were distributed.

The telegraph operator at Sharpsburgh station, who stabbed McNeil on Saturday, has been arrested at Steubenville, and Mayor Cassidy has been duly telegraphed Mayor Brush, yesterday morning, what disposition should be made of him. The Mayor replied that the information against the prisoner must be made at Mansfield, Pa.

At the Bellefield school, Christmas was duly celebrated by a liberal distribution of presents to the children. During the exercises addresses were made by Henry Logan, Jr., Rev. Mr. Hunter, Rev. Mr. Wilson and others. Prof. Lawson conducted an excellent vocal exercises, and music from the piano were over the candy, to the number of five hundred boxes, was distributed, and an elegant stand of colors was presented to a member of the Duquesne Greys, who acknowledged the handsome present in a patriotic speech.

Accasions so common and so appropriate at this season of the year, it would be difficult to find one more appropriate than the one which transpired at the residence of Rev. J. C. Hutson, pastor of the Nixon street Baptist Church, Allegheny city, on Christmas evening. His people had decided to make him a surprise visit. He and his family were accordingly called out to dinner and tea. As soon as they had left their house it was invaded by the ladies and "loaded and put in order" to suit their wishes. Baskets of "good things" were brought in until the tables fairly groaned beneath their load. In the meantime, also, the "presents" were carefully laid aside for fear of the sudden arrival of the host. Eight o'clock in the merry evening arrived, and with it the unsuspecting pastor and family, accompanied by the friendly sheep unfailingly they had enjoyed during the day, came to his house, on nearing which the sound of sacred music greeted his ears. Not until he had entered and beheld the happy throng did he seem to realize the true nature of the case. But with his characteristic good nature and pleasant manners he accepted the situation. Indeed, he seemed to enjoy the surprise as much as those who planned and executed it. After an hour spent in "chit-chat," the pastor and his excellent lady were assured by other men were convicted. All were remanded for investigation.

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SUICIDE OF JAMES W. KENNEDY.

He Shoots Himself in His Office, at Noon, Christmas, and Dies at His Residence in Allegheny the Same Evening—Testimony Before the Inquest—Insanity Supposed to be the Cause.

The festivities of Christmas were sadly interrupted during the afternoon, by the announcement that Mr. James W. Kennedy, a well known citizen and a prominent stock and bill broker of this city, had shot himself at his office, No. 80 Fourth avenue, and was then in a dying condition. The report spread rapidly throughout the community, and was bulletined from some of the newspaper offices. It caused the greatest surprise to every one who knew Mr. Kennedy, as he had been seen upon the streets, and at his usual places of visiting, up until a few minutes before the time when the shooting occurred. Various causes were at once assigned, the principal one being financial embarrassment. This conclusion was easily drawn when the fact was known that Mr. Kennedy was a stock broker; but subsequent inquiry failed to confirm this view. The opinion of those best able to form a judgment on the subject is, that he was not seriously embarrassed at all, but amply able to meet all liabilities of whatever character. The facts may be briefly stated thus: For some weeks past Mr. Kennedy had not been in his usual health, and his more intimate friends detected serious physical and mental trouble. He had been physically weak from childhood, and possessed a peculiarly nervous temperament. Latterly he had become so depressed in mind that he could not disguise his troubles, and had to reveal them to his more intimate friends. Strange as it may seem, his great dread was that he would eventually come to poverty—that his family would suffer from want of the ordinary necessaries of life, and that he would be unable to prevent this calamity from overtaking him. It was in vain that his friends labored to dispel these hallucinations. Their counsel and sympathy would soothe him for a time, but he would relapse again into apparent hypochondria. This miserable feeling seems to have grown very rapidly of late, and prevented his sleeping at night. He was also afflicted with neuralgia, and had been taking powerful an aesthetics for relief from his mental and bodily sufferings. On Sunday he attended Sabbath school, at Christ M. E. Church, where he was a teacher, and seemed to enjoy himself exercises with his accustomed spirit. On Monday he was about as usual, and came over from his residence in Allegheny to this city. He was met on Fifth avenue by a friend, about eleven o'clock, and between that and twelve came into the editorial rooms of the COMMERCIAL. The only persons in the office then were Captain Evans and his son, with whom he conversed a few minutes. He then left the office, and went to his own office, which was within a minute of each other; about five minutes after thought I heard a groan; went to the office door of No. 5, opened it, and listened, but as I could hear no further noise, closed the door and sat down. In five or six minutes more heard a very decided groan, and as the noise came from Room No. 4, occupied by Mr. Kennedy, and having heard his pistol shots, I thought there must be something wrong in his room. In five or ten minutes I saw Mr. Kerr in the entry and CONSCIOUSLY called to him. We went to the door of No. 4 to listen, and as we got there we heard a groan. Mr. Kerr got a chair, and looked over the partition. We then went for an officer and found Mr. Rivers on the street. We all went back to the room, climbed over the partition and unlocked the door from the inside. Finding Mr. Kerr did not go in, Mr. Kennedy lay on the floor near the lounge, with a pistol in his right hand, where he lay. The pistol was full cocked, and had three barrels discharged. Mr. Rivers then went for a doctor and soon Doctor Rogers came. Mr. Kennedy spoke to Mr. Kerr; asked him if he was a friend. Mr. Kerr replied that he was, and inquired of him what the matter was. Mr. Kennedy replied "he was a ruined man." Dr. Rogers probed the wound and asked him if he had anything to say, as the wound was probably a fatal one. Do not remember of Mr. Kennedy making any reply to Dr. Rogers. After a while Mr. Dermott came, and had a considerable conversation with Mr. He took some notes, or memoranda, of what Mr. Kennedy said. He asked Mr. Kennedy to say, before Mr. Dermott, what he had previously stated; "and in reply to some one else he said, 'stock speculation will be the ruin of me.' He also said, 'his wife was an avarice;' have known Mr. Kennedy since February last; saw him Friday or Saturday last; don't think I saw him enough then.

TESTIMONY OF J. W. KERR.

Joseph W. Kerr, sworn—Board at 99 Fourth avenue; have office at No. 84 Fourth avenue; was passing up to my office, and in passing Bourne's door he hailed me and said something; was not sure he called me, and said something; went to the door; found that he had heard two or three pistol shots, but as there was so much firing around, I could not decide whether it was in the building or outside. I told him we would examine and see what it meant. The outer door of Kennedy's room was open, but the inner door was locked; as we passed the door we heard groans. Mr. Rivers went for a physician; I stepped up beside Mr. Kennedy and asked him if he knew me; he looked up but did not speak; I then gave him my name; he then said he knew me; he did not think he was in a mind that I could do what he wanted to be done; he said to "keep the thing quiet and get him home." I stepped back, when he said "Kerr, good by" again, and I said I would not sympathy for him. I told him "yes—we were waiting for a physician—don't want to remove you until we know what the nature of the wounds was." Mr. Rivers then came, bringing Dr. Rogers. The latter examined Mr. Kennedy, and they were mortal. I started to find some of his friends, to break the news to his family, as the only person I could think of was Wm. Little; brought him, and he and I went to Allegheny, to the house of the deceased. Mr. Little knew him for a number of years. Had not seen him for a week or ten days before the shooting.

TESTIMONY OF OFFICER RIVERS.

Officer J. F. Rivers, sworn—Was called yesterday near one o'clock, by Mr. Kerr and Mr. Bourne, who told me they suspected suicide, and they wanted an officer to go with them and see. Went with them, and upon a chair, looked over the partition, and saw the deceased lying on his right side, lumped over, opened the door and let the two men in; I went to him, touched him on the forehead, and he said, "art thou a friend or a foe?" I told him I was a friend; he moaned; I found this pistol (produced) lying near his right hand; it was at full cock, and had the number of chambers discharged that you see now; I then started for Dr. Rodgers, and went with him to the office; he probed the wounds, and said he thought them fatal; the doct r and I then lifted him upon the lounge while we turned down his bed, but the door was partly open; I heard the word "starvation" by the deceased, but could not make the connection in which it was used; heard him frequently say that he was a ruined man, and had betrayed all trust; he asked for Mr. Knox frequently, and for Dr. McCandless.

THE MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

Dr. J. Rogers, sworn—Yesterday, a little after one o'clock, officer Rivers came to my office and told me Mr. Kennedy, of No. 80 Fourth avenue, had shot himself. He showed me the pistol. He and I immediately went down, and found Mr. Kennedy lying on his right side near the lounge; I felt for his pulse and found there was none; his hands were becoming quite cool; I turned him over on his back to see where he had shot himself: his vest and both coats were open; found blood on his shirt. I unbuttoned his pants, pulled up his shirts and saw where three balls had penetrated the abdomen. Tried to get his body in as near the same position as when he received the wounds in order to trace the balls. I probed sufficiently to ascertain the direction of the balls; found they lifted him on the lounge, and after that I opened his eye to see the pupil; found it rather dilated; then asked him if he could hear me; he replied "very dimly." He then asked me who I was, and I told him my name; then he asked if I thought he would die, and I told him he would certainly die, as his wounds were mortal. He then turned his head inward prayer, and then settled very long tone for his brother-in-law, Rev. J. Knox, and wished him sent for. He also asked for his wife, and wished her sent for. I told him if he had anything to say about his business, he had better say it, as it was impossible to tell how long he might live. He again called for Mr. Knox and his wife. Mr. Dermott then came, and I was then convinced if he had anything to say he had better make a statement to Mr. Dermott. I think I asked him the cause of it before Mr. Dermott came, and he replied "that he had betrayed all trusts—that speculation was the cause of it—that he was a ruined man, and that he had disgraced his family." While the interview was had between deceased and Mr. Dermott I went down to my office. When I came back saw Mr. Dermott with a piece of paper, sitting beside the deceased. Mr. Dermott asked him if he had any money in New York, and he answered he had $1,400 at Bates & Brown's, No. 11 Wall street. Soon after his wife and other friends came in.

The expression mentioned by Mr. Rivers, "are you sent or a foe," was simply a happy way deceased uttered in a loud tone. His cries for Mr. Knox were also loud. He spoke of his lovely daughter with a disgree he had brought upon his family. From his frequent calls for his wife and Mr. Knox, I supposed he would communicate with them. Dr. Rogers said he refused to give him anything to relieve his pain, as I wished him to have his mind clear. When Mr. Knox came on I gave him two grains of morphia, but it gave him no relief. He said he had been accustomed to two and a half grains at a time. He begged to be relieved of the intense pain, and I gave him six grains. That did not relieve him, and he begged for God's sake for a little more, as the pain was gnawing his vitals. I gave him some more and it relieved him. He was removed to his residence in Allegheny, about five o'clock, and I remained with him until he died, about eight o'clock. He was under the influence of narcotics from the time he was taken home until he died. About that time before his death he opened his eyes. Noticing this, I requested his wife to ask him if he recognized her. A moment after he said: "Yes—my dear." He did not speak after that. He seemed to be in his right mind when I first saw him—that is why I avoided giving him any narcotic until he had time to communicate with his family.

TESTIMONY OF MR. JOHN R. KENNEDY.

John R. Kennedy, sworn—Am a brother of the deceased; reside in Allegheny city; the last time I saw him was on Saturday last; he said he was not feeling so well, that he had a return of his nervous spells. For years he had been subject to attacks of depression of spirits. About fourteen years ago, during the heat of summer, while greatly exercised, he drank a large quantity of ice water. This was the commencement of his troubles. For a year after that he suffered much—imagined that he was dying and constantly became hypochondriac. For a number of years then he seemed to be in better health. Latterly he became impressed with the idea that he was going to come to abject poverty. He could not sleep at night. For three years past, to my knowledge, and I learn from his wife, he did not sleep; but would start in the night and imagine he was dying. He became impressed with the belief, lately, that the stock market was going against him. He seemed to entertain that his wife deemed it proper to ask the advice of her brother, Mr. Knox, who had close business relations with him. Mr. Knox told him not to give himself any trouble or concern about the future as that if the trouble he anticipated came upon him, he (Mr. Knox) would help him to the extent of his ability. This seemed to calm him for a little while, but as soon as Mr. Knox left his fearful forebodings returned. Latterly he complained of severe neuralgic affections, extending from the head to the heart. He had been in the habit of taking large doses of morphia and chloroform. I asked his banker to-day how his accounts stood with him, and he said he had a balance to his credit. His bankers in New York were telegraphed to, and replied that he had no interest in the stock market there, and that he had a large balance to his credit, and that no one could lose by him there. Mr. Knox informs me that his assets are ample to meet all liabilities. I know of no cause for the act, unless it was insanity. His relations with his family were of the most pleasant character. When I first saw him, after the shooting, he did not seem to know what caused the terrible pain in the region of his stomach; I told him it was where he hurt himself, and he seemed surprised; did not seem to realize what he had done. After his first trouble he told me he had a terrible temptation to commit suicide, to jump off the bridge, &c. His wife tells me he expressed this same feeling to her recently. His dread of poverty was a sort of monomania. He had recently taken a large sum of money to the house, which he told his son to keep there, so that they could not come to want. My brother would have been fifty-one years old to-morrow, if he had lived till then. He leaves a wife and four children.

MR. CLARK'S EVIDENCE.

Austin L. Clark, sworn—Live in the First ward, Allegheny, about a stone's throw from where the deceased lived; was there the first part of last week; one of the children was sick; Mr. Kennedy said, "I'm sick." I asked him what was the matter; he said he had a violent pain in his head, and asked me to go for the doctor; Mrs. Kennedy said the doctor had a hemorrhage and could not come out such a cold night. He said, "Well, you may regret it," looking towards his wife. I said I would go for the doctor, but he said I needn't mind, that he would get better after a while. I no

The Daily Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1871.

THE Harrisburg correspondent of a Philadelphia paper expresses the belief that, while other candidates for Governor have been announced, the contest must narrow down with HARTRANFT, WHITE and JORDAN the leading ones. The same writer makes the statement that of the sixty delegates already chosen two-thirds are for HARTRANFT. The Convention has not been called.

THERE seems to be authority for the statement that General GRANT expects that, unless some unforeseen event occurs to make a change necessary, Mr. FISH will remain as Secretary of State during the remainder of the present Administration. There is the same high authority for the assertion that the President does not now contemplate nor desire any further change in his Cabinet before the 4th of March, 1873.

IT is remarked by the journals on both sides of the Canadian frontier, that the smuggling of goods from the Dominion over to the United States, has very greatly fallen off of late, prices on the two sides being in course of rapid approximation, by going up in Canada, and down in the States. This is a phenomenon to which the free trade manufacturers and importers of the Dominion, and their friends and allies in the United States, might do well to direct their serious consideration.

THE free-trade coalitionists who met in Washington last week intend after the holidays to begin business in earnest. After the manner of lobbyists in general they have secured a spacious and well appointed dwelling, to maintain their quarters in which will require a liberal allowance of money. This it is said they have, and will spend it liberally. Congress is to be deluged with free-trade documents, and if the tariff law is not made to conform to their views it will not be for the lack of effort.

IT is now said that Gen. SICKLES was brought home to receive certain instructions which were considered too important to communicate in any other manner. The purchase of Cuba by the United States is the pivotal idea, and while certain persons who profess to know considerable about the matter maintain that the thing is to be done peacefully, others, no less wise, are equally certain that the SICKLES movement is preliminary to certain grave and immediate demands on Spain, and in case of non-compliance war, with the acquisition of Cuba for the outcome. The speculation is sufficiently startling, but it will not do to accept it at once as the only explanation of the SICKLES movement.

WITHOUT making particular reference to the merits of the recent debate in the United States Senate, it may be safely said that the *caucus system*, as an adjunct of legislation, has suddenly grown into disrepute, in consequence of the part it was made to play in connection with the appointment of the Senate Investigating Committee. While the benefits of frequent consultations cannot be denied, the use of the power of coercion which the caucus confers to carry objects which would fail on their merits, is an evil to be resisted. In the instance referred to, it worked mischief, as those who were most active in managing it are probably now ready to admit. The resignation of Senato' POOL creates a vacancy in the caucus made committee, which, we are glad to see, caucus does not propose to fill. The duty will devolve, where it originally was, on Mr. COLFAX, as the presiding officer of the Senate: and he, it is said, will appoint Senator SCHURZ, as the only thing he can do and observe usage and parliamentary law. Mr. SCHURZ is the last man caucus would select, and, although Mr. COLFAX may not conclude to name him, the power of caucus has so sensibly diminished, through the too arbitrary use of it in this connection, that it is something to particularly note.

"Thus early, and before the session of the Legislature begins, we warn members that the acts of past years will not be tolerated, and that they must redeem the legislation of the State from its frauds and infamies, and their public characters from the stain of corruption and bribery.

It will be well fo. the Legislature when it assembles to review the recent history of the country, and to study its lessons. The present great upheaval of public sentiment, the execration of bad officials, and the universal demand for reform are not ephemeral movements, but promise to live through all time. Now, the people of this Commonwealth want earnest, active work at Harrisburg this winter, and plain practical reform, accompanied by a high-minded and conscientious discharge of duty. The day when "rings" and "bobbies" will be tolerated in the Legislative halls of Pennsylvania is past."

To witness such things in the *Press*, which but a short time ago could scarcely find words with which to suitably denounce the COMMERCIAL for demanding reform at Harrisburg, is something to live for. Nor is this a solitary instance. When the COMMERCIAL first raised the cry of Constitutional reform, it was, as a general thing, either scouted or received in silence. But the Legislature was compelled to take it up, and the people now rejoice in the prospect of a new Constitution and a thorough reformation of Harrisburg abuses. In view of many things already certain to be accomplished, retrospection presents many things that are gratifying to us in this season of review and resolution.

DEATH OF JAMES W. KENNEDY.

In that part of our paper devoted to city affairs will be found reported to-day the particulars of the death, by his own hand, of Mr. JAMES W. KENNEDY. He was a well known citizen, not only as a broker, which business he was successfully prosecuting at the time of his death, but as the founder and for a considerable number of years publisher of the Bank Note Detector bearing his own name, and by his connection with the press of Pittsburgh at different times in the last twenty years. At the time of his death he had charge of the Financial column of the COMMERCIAL, which position he held from the time the paper was started. He was a gentleman of fine sensibilities, excellent intelligence and irreproachable life. A member of the Methodist Church, he took a lively interest in the cause of religion and education; and in the truly Christian spirit, gave liberally and often, without ostentation. In his domestic relations he was happy,—a gentleman at all times, he was a kind husband and tender parent. Well and favorably known as he was in this community, the report of his tragic death produced a profound sensation. Apart from his grief-stricken household, nowhere is the feeling of regret deeper or more sincere than among those who knew him as associate and friend.

ROBERT DALE OWEN'S NEW BOOK.

"The Debatable Land Between this World and the Next, with illustrative narrations by ROBERT DALE OWEN," may be described as a continuation of the book published by the same author about ten years ago, under the title of "Footfalls on the Boundary of Another World." The object of the latter work was to combat the prevailing Saducism of the time by satisfying the reader of the reality of what is called the spiritual world. The book has been very widely read on both sides of the Atlantic, more than twenty thousand copies of it having been sold some time ago, as stated by the publishers. The high social and official position of the author, no doubt, served to introduce the work to many, and no candid reader will deny that the character of the author as revealed in his writings is rather attractive. As CHARLES DICKENS, deriving his impression from the "Footfalls," said of him; "he is a gentleman of a sweet temper, and expresses himself as a gentleman should." Mr. OWEN'S last book—the "Debatable Land"—is marked by all the characteristics of his former book on the same general subject. The same impression of sincerity and love of truth, earnestness of purpose, and fine humanity in the author, is derived from its pages. Should anyone allege that the same tendency to credulity or easiness of belief in the supernatural or supramundane is apparent, it might be difficult to deny the justice of the criticism. But the author candidly owns to the disturbing influence of a desire to find evidence of immortality, and in general he shows no lack of either ability or willingness to scrutinize testimony with the view of ascertaining its claims to belief. Perhaps the most frequent instances of at least seeming excess of promptitude to believe, are those cases in which Mr. OWEN accepts the testimony of persons on the ground of his own knowledge or estimate of their characters. These are often people of high social position, ladies and gentlemen, directly to question whose veracity would be to deny their title to respectability in the social rank to which they belong. But somewhat more than mere veracity in the witness, is often required to render his or her testimony worthy of belief, and when one calls to mind FARADAY'S remarks touching the "uneducated judgments of the members of aristocratic society," a few years ago, the high social position of the witness to extraordinary phenomena does not seem an important element in the investigation. Not only in reference to reporters of this class but to those of less distinguished rank Mr. OWEN seems too indulgent. Hence though he may regard them as competent and may receive their statements as true, the cautious reader can not help doubting. With respect to Mr. Owen's own competence to observe phenomena submitted to his senses, it is impossible not to think rather favorably, His entire honesty no reader of his books may doubt, and in spite of his desire to see and hear proofs of the other world, in the guise of blows and knocks, he seems duly on the alert against deception. He is also a scholar, of extensive reading and no mean powers of research. It is besides, abundantly evident that he has devoted a great deal of time and attention to the investigation of the obscure phenomena in which the spiritual or invisible world is supposed by many to be revealed in our day, and that in arranging and publishing the results of his explorations, he has been influenced by the most worthy motives. So much, we think, may be fairly gathered from the spirit and tenor of his book.

The appearance of a book on the subject of spiritualism by such a man is certainly a sign of the times. Whether a reality or a delusion, there can be no doubt that spiritualism has been steadily gaining ground for some years not only in this country but in Europe; and not only among the ignorant and illiterate, but among the educated classes. Judge EDMUNDS, five years ago, estimated the number of its adherents in the United States at ten millions. Mr. OWEN, more moderate, thinks that "the number of those who accept more or less unreservedly its phenomena, may be safely assumed to exceed in the United States seven millions and a half, and in the rest of christendom to amount to at least as many more." In this estimate, however, are included all those who regard a portion of the ordinary phenomena of the mystery as realities and not mere delusions of the senses. The number of this class will undoubtedly be increased by the circulation of Mr. OWEN'S book—"The Debatable Land." It will, of course, be extensively read, and readers who have not before given attention to the subject, will be surprised at the multitude of apparently well attested facts by which a belief in the necromancy is justified. The effect of the book will be the greater from the moderation and reserve with which the subject is treated. The author, a man of tested and wide knowledge of the world, who also regards with reverence the teachings of the New Testament (as he understands them) in his dealings with Spiritualism was not exposed to those superstitious excesses and absurdities, of which so many less favored inquirers have been the victims. In the expositions of such a man all its most offensive aspects and degrading extravagances are kept quite out of sight. Such glimpses into the life of the other world, as were vouchsafed, it should seem, to Mr. OWEN and his cultured friends, are, of course, rather interesting, and not especially repulsive to the most refined preconceptions. Under the charm of the author's easy faith and plausible philosophy, even the most fastidious reader may forget or set aside for the time the general character of the future state as disclosed in the revelations of turning tables and noisy walls, of which the proper effect would appear to be to excite disgust rather than longing for immortality. Indeed, all that can be said in their favor was perhaps said by Professor Huxley, when he referred to them as furnishing a most weighty and cogent argument or warning against suicide. On the assumption that the great thinkers and poets of the past have sunk, in the disembodied state, to the intellectual level indicated in the ordinary spiritualistic communications by or concerning them, why

"The weariest and most loathed worldly life
That age, ache, penury and imprisonment
Can lay on nature, is a paradise"

to what people of only common endowments have reason to fear of death. Mr. OWEN has much to say with reference to spiritual phenomena as evidences of a life to come, and of their value from this point of view. In fact they amount, in that direction, to nothing more than those manifestations, sometimes ascribed to ghosts and sometimes to gods, which have in all ages kept mankind more or less in dread of the supernatural. Ancient history as well as ancient poetry is full of them, even the gravest and most skeptical pagan annalists deeming them worthy of mention, and among modern heathen nations similar manifestations are almost equally common. To teach the people of a Christian country at this age of the world to run after "*sagas, nocturnos lemures portentaque Thessala*" at which wise men laughed in the time of HORACE, is rather a poor business. The doctrine of immortality needs no such buttress as it can not likely to be promoted by it in the long run. All the evidence in its support derivable from apparitions and mysterious intimations, has always been, and is still, possessed independently of spiritual raps and lively tables, and the testimony of the latter is quite discredited by the general insignificance and low triviality of their communications.

One leading object of Mr. OWEN'S book is evidently to bring the epiphanies of Spiritualism into connection with the life and doctrines of Christ as portrayed in the New Testament, especially in the synoptical gospels. But his treatment of the subject is wholly unsatisfactory from lack of completeness. While mere suggestions seem plausible, while single texts may seem verified in so-called spiritual facts, no attempt is made to place the general view in harmony with the great system or body of doctrines and facts embraced even in those portions of the New Testament which Mr. OWEN may be presumed to accept as a revelation, on the ground of the witness they receive from his own heart and understanding. In other words, the whole presentation of the subject is one-sided. The same objection lies with equal force against the author's treatment of the religious doctrines of Protestantism, or the Reformation, in his introductory "Address to the Protestant clergy." In the character of the Reformers and in the doctrines taught by them and their successors, Mr. OWEN perceives reasons for the alleged failure of Protestantism hitherto to prevail against the old church, and to gain the adhesion of the masses even in Protestant lands. In illustration of the subject he thinks it worth while to devote a whole chapter to the death of SERVETUS, his aim being to discredit the religious leaders who headed and who approved of the persecution. No doubt, the facts are correctly narrated, and most of the points made, whether ethical or religious, may be well taken. But to apprehend them in their true significance and to judge them without injustice, several things must be taken into consideration, which Mr. OWEN does not wholly overlook but which he fails to make as prominent as they ought to be made. Such are the moral and intellectual condition of Europe at the time, the tone of character in various ranks of the population, and other circumstances, which make it certain that the doctrines which seem so repulsive to delicate theologians of to-day, did not thus offend in the sixteenth century, and therefore did not produce the effects ascribed to them. In that age, the mild and weak theological ethics of the "Debatable Land" would have seemed to all intelligent people, whether Calvinists or not, a mere negation of all law, a surrender of God's world to the reign of the Prince of Darkness. In spite also of Mr. OWENS'S manifest effort to be candid and fair, he fails egregiously to do justice to the admirable social and political influence in the past of those religious doctrines which he regards with so much dislike.

Indeed, from the silence in which he passes over this aspect of the subject one might suspect that he had neglected to make himself acquainted with the history of the Calvinistic Churches since the Reformation, or even with those benevolent operations in all parts of the earth, by which the same churches are at the present day changing the face of the world. Over against such a record to set the peepings and mutterings of spiritualism as a new development of religious life by which not only the Calvanistic, but all the churches are to be revived and fitted for their work, is rather ridiculous.

There were 228 deaths from smallpox in Philadelphia, last week, a slight increase over the previous week.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Newfoundland is just now enjoying an era of great commercial prosperity. The capture of the almost fabulous number of 660,000 seals in the spring of this year, and a most successful cod fishery, have been followed by the reappearance of mackerel on the coast after an absence of forty years. Money, too, seems to be abundant, the local banks having reduced the rate of interest.

In France, the manufacturing of matches sustains 25,000 workmen, and seven millions of francs are invested in the business. The Government proposes to tax it; the manufacturers say if it does the consumption of matches will fall off three-fourths, and that five millions of dollars' worth of property will be rendered valueless, and over twenty thousand laborers thrown out of employment.

The *Journal des Débats* gives the following description of the ceremony of passing around the loving cup at the Mansion House, London. "The loving cup is a great golden vase with a cover, and filled with a mixture of champagne, claret and spices. The Lady Mayoress turned to the left side, holding the cup with her two hands. M. Leon Say raised the cover while she drank. He then took the cup in his turn, and turning to the left, received from his neighbor the same service while drinking. The round of the table was thus made amid the grave salutations of those passing the cup. The ancient usage wills that three persons be always standing at the same time, the one who drinks, the one who holds the cover, and the one who is to hold the cover next. It appears that the office of the third person standing is to watch over the two others that they may not be knocked on the head while they are drinking."

The last vessel that sailed from Port Elizabeth, South Africa, for London, took out diamonds to the value of nearly fifty thousand dollars. The proposition recently made to annex the diamond fields to the British colony is favorably received, as it is thought that it will give security to those who are engaged in diamond hunting and to the inhabitants generally.

Mr. Porter, of Missouri, having completed a century without any prospect of dissolution, has concluded to rub out and begin over again. Accordingly his gray hair is turning black and he is cutting a third set of teeth at the early age of one hundred and one.

It is stated that a preliminary meeting of the bituminous and anthracite coal men was recently held in the Schuylkill district, at which a considerable spirit of mutual forbearance was exhibited. An adherence to the basis of $2 75 with $2 25 as a minimum was advised and will probably prevail. The total receipts of coal for the year will, it is said, exceed those of last year to from two to three hundred thousand tons. The supply of anthracite will be about half a million short.

The Postmaster General reports that the total cost of the United States ocean mail steamship service for the year 1871, including $603,000 paid from special appropriations for steamship service to Japan and China, to Brazil and the Hawaiian Islands, was $975,996 71.

Information has just been received of a volcanic outbreak at Ternate, Java. On the 7th of August a violent earthquake was felt and the Ternate mountain, after emitting rumbling sounds, varied by loud reports, and in the afternoon cast out streams of lava. At daybreak on the 8th the outburst became worse and the population began to fly to the islands of Tidore and Halmaheira. All the Tidorese or Ternate fled back to their island, accompanied by thousands of other runaways. The Chinese were the first to seek their safety in flight. The casting out of fire and stones held on for about twelve days, after which it became less. The damage caused to houses and plantations has been enormous, but has not been as yet accurately ascertained.

What will be Chicago's next calamity? The *Times*, of that city, says: "For the information of people abroad, The *Times* hereby announces that the next thing in order on the programme of calamities for Chicago is an earthquake. Fire, and flood, and hurricane have successively put in an appearance within the last seventy days, and the order of events must be said that each has done its "level best" to extirpate this obstinate town. But each has failed to completely fulfill the job. It now remains for an earthquake to pay us a visit, and try its power in tumbling down what the flames, the flood, and the hurricane have left. In the proper sequence of events, people abroad need not entertain the slightest doubt that an earthquake is the next thing in order at Chicago."

Dr. James McCosh, President of Princeton College, in his annual statement says that there are now 280 students on the roll. The College has five fellows, each with a salary of $600 a year, pursuing higher studies in philosophy, science or literature in Princeton, New York, Edinburgh and Berlin. The sum of $120,000 has been subscribed to build a new library, the building for which is being erected as rapidly as possible. An effort is being made to increase the salaries of Professors to $3,000 each per annum, for which purpose Mr. Robert Bonner has subscribed $5,000.

A number of English Unitarians, assembled in solemn conclave, recently passed a resolution, *nemine contradicente*, declaring that "This meeting does not believe in the doctrine of an endless hell, as taught in the shorter catechism."

A young man named Frederick Snedecer was arrested in New York on Friday, charged with dealing in forged Allentown, Pa., school bonds. He sold to a broker named Miner fourteen bonds of the denomination of $500 and fifteen of $50, receiving in payment $8,500. Not satisfied with this sale he endeavored to sell other bonds valued at $9,000, but it having been ascertained that the first batch were forged the producer was arrested and is now in the tombs waiting trial.

Four thousand cloth-dressers, in the employ of forty firms at Leeds, England, have been locked out because they refused to sign a promise not to support the nine hours movement. Some time ago the dressers obtained an advance of wages, since then the Saturday half-holiday has been conceded, and now they demand the nine hours' limit, the notices for which expire this week. Some firms have conceded the demand.

Says a New York letter writer before Christmas: "There are to be various new developments at the advanced ritualistic churches. The Christmas "Completes" and "midnight Eucharistic Sacrifices," are among the novelties, while as if to outdo all the rest in shocking the nerves of Low Churchmen, Rev. Father Bradley, of St. Sacrament's, actually advertises that "confessions will be heard every evening, after Even Song."

ONE of the most important political-commercial projects of the age is the connection of the Black and Caspian seas by means of a ship canal. The construction of this canal, which is intended to admit vessels of the largest class, will, it is said, be begun in the ensuing spring. When completed, this enterprise will open the Caspian sea to the world. The length of the canal will be three hundred and seventy miles. Six years will be required to finish it, and the estimate of its cost is from sixty to a hundred millions of dollars. During the reign of Peter the Great, of Russia, several plans were contrived for the consummation of this work, but his death put a stop to their execution. In 1836, also, a commission was appointed to investigate the probabilities of a successful termination of the attempt. Should the project be accomplished, it will considerably inure to the advantage of Russia, who will thus be able to combine at pleasure her Black Sea and Caspian fleets. It is supposed that in prehistoric times the plain of Manitz, which now divides the two seas, was the bed of a branch connecting the two seas, and that, by digging out a deep valley line, which seems to indicate the old channel course, a union between the Caspian and Azoz Seas would be accomplished. If this could be done Russia would gain a very firm hold on Central Asia, and she is willing to make any effort to consummate that.

A LATE number of the *Jewish Messenger* has a liberal and analytic examination of the character of Shylock, pointing out that Shakspeare viewed the Jew from a much higher standpoint than the level of common observation, and contending that, so far from intending him as a portrayal of the worst qualities of the Hebrew, he meant him as a vindication of the Israelite from the common prejudices respecting the race. There is probably a good deal of truth in this hypothesis. The common notion of people in Shakspeare's age was that every human feeling in a Jew was swallowed up in avarice, which the poet refuted by showing at least equal greed in the Christian; while in direct opposition to the popular impression concerning other tendencies, he endowed him with tenderness which was almost womanly, and showed that he made repeated attempts to gain the love of his Christian neighbor, being spat upon and treated like a dog for his pains. The article is a curious and totally unexpected tribute to the wonderful clear-sightedness and conscientiousness of the great master of creative poetry.

THE *Manufacturer's Journal*, at Harrisburg, warmly indorses the Hon. Daniel J. Morrell for Governor. It says:

"Our State has accomplished great results in the past decade, but greater results are yet to be achieved; the great iron and coal interests, and the manufacturing industries of our State, are only in their infancy, and they will need the fostering care of men of experience to carry us safely on to success, and the one who has contributed a large part, and who has proved, probably, the most successful of all our great manufacturers, would, we think, be a fitting man for our Chief Magistrate."

Mr. Morrell's name is formally mentioned in connection with the United States Senatorship in 1873.

THE Beaver County Bar have held a meeting and resolved against the Revised Code. One resolution adopted is as follows:

"That the work upon the whole has been done in a careless, illiterate and bungling manner, and its adoption by the Legislature would bring mirth to reproach and ridicule upon the legal profession of the State, and moreover would be an irreparable calamity to the people of the commonwealth, by unsettling the law and leading to great uncertainty, endless strife and litigation."

The Commissioners are not likely to have many warm advocates of their work.

SAYS the Washington *Chronicle* of Friday: Congressmen at the Capitol yesterday pretty freely talked over the report of the Civil Service Commission, and thought generally the plan was a good one; some, however, thought the power would prove too sweeping in the taking in of postmasters and other isolated offices, and think that it should apply only where strictly clerical duties are performed, such as are executed in the departments, custom houses, &c. Not a few Senators and Members believe that the change would deprive them of influence in appointments that they should have sole control of.

ARMARI MARI, the Japanese Minister to the United States, is making arrangements to receive the embassy, who will probably, remain in the United States from one to two months. Mr. Mari speaks English fluently, having been educated in England. He has urged upon the Japanese Government to interdict a further teaching of Chinese, which is the written language of Japan, and substitute English, so that their whole nation would eventually use the English language, and entirely abandon their present language. He thinks their taking our language, manners and customs is inevitable, and is only a question of a very short time.

THE Governor of Alabama the other day sent a message to the Legislature, stating that he construes the Steele bill of last session as continuing in its operations, and authorizing him to pay interest on the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad bonds so long as the company continues in default, and asking the legislature to construe said act by a declaratory enactment. He says the good name of the State demands an immediate and unequivocal determination of the matter.

THE Louisiana levees are to be thoroughly reconstructed during the coming year. The old company has retired and a new one, composed of some of the most public-spirited citizens of the State, has taken its place. Preparations are being made on an extensive scale for an early commencement of the work.

The Maryland Salamander.

The fire-proof negro is still agitating Maryland. It will be remembered that, as reported some time since, he handled red-hot iron and melted lead with the utmost impunity, those metals, if we mistake not, being burned by contact with his flesh. A Maryland paper, after correcting some of the statements circulated concerning this man, whose name is Nathan Coker, adds:

In can, however, eat red-hot anthracite coals, stir up red hot coals in a furnace with his naked hands, pick a red-hot bar of iron until it is cold, receive molten lead into his mouth and keep it there until it cools; and it has been said that he has walked on red-hot bars of iron barefoot. This feat we have never witnessed ourselves, although we have seen him apply a red-hot bar of iron to his barefoot and keep it there until it had lost its redness. But we have noticed that there are times when it seemed to affect him, and we have seen him start back from its touch. We remember a few years ago, while he was mixing lime for the plasterers who were at work finishing a building for us in this town he ran his hand into the lime while being slaked, to take out the core, but he withdrew it in a twinkling. The lime burned him, and he felt its effects very sensibly. Another time a company of young men beat Coker rather badly. He made a wager with them of twenty dollars that he could sit on a red hot stove for fifteen minutes. The stove was heated until it was all aglow with redness; the fire king took his seat, and actually, it is said, sat out ten minutes of the time, but one of the wags, pouring a little coal oil on the stove, drew him from his position in double quick time, and burned him severely. He is a remarkable negro, and no one yet has ever been able to explain his dealings with this element.

A Fortune Recovered.

Clark county, Ind., was the scene of the Park family tragedy, and now there comes from that locality a wonderful story regarding Rev. Rozin Hammond, a Methodist preacher, who recently died, at the age of eighty years. The researches of his administrator and his heirs prove him to have amassed a fortune of $250,000, although his salary has always been only from $200 to $600 a year. In making an inventory of his estate an old trunk was found secreted under the floor of a closet, which proved to be filled with gold, silver and government bonds. It contained $25,000 in specie and $10,000 in securities. Deeds were also found showing extensive ownership of lands bought long ago for extremely small sums, and now very valuable. Mr. Hammond, it is asserted, gave liberally to deserving objects, and was not miserly. His wealth was probably acquired by long and patient waiting, persistent accumulation and close economy. Mrs. Hammond, who survives her husband, says that during the raid of Gen. John Morgan through Indiana, Mr. Hammond drew all his money from the bank, and other sources, and placed it together in this old trunk, which he secreted where it was found. She had supposed, however, that after the danger from Morgan and his men had passed, he had again deposited the money whence it had been drawn; and although it was known to her that the trunk was in the closet, she never dreamed of the immense treasure it contained. The money has been deposited in the Citizen's National Bank of Jeffersonville. At the time of his death Rev. Mr. Hammond was probably the wealthiest Methodist minister in the West, except Bishop Ames.

GEN. GARFIELD has, at the request of the Secretary of the State of Ohio, prepared a paper upon the results of the census, as far as they relate to that State, which will be embodied in the forthcoming report of the Secretary. This paper has been prepared with much labor, and contains information of considerable value. Among other facts, it is shown that the emigration from and the emigration to Ohio has been very nearly equal—that is, the number of persons who have gone to that State from other States, and from foreign countries, has been balanced by the number born there who have gone to other States and found homes. In 37 counties, there has been an increase of population in the last decade, 3 counties have been stationary, and in 17 there has been a decrease. The counties that have gained are all three-crop. The 17 agricultural counties of the Northwest, which have been largely settled since 1860, have increased 89,300; in nine iron manufacturing and iron and coal mining counties in the Mahoning Valley, and in the extreme southern portion of the State, there has been an increase of 50,500. The remaining increase has been in the eleven counting cities, which have gained 175,000. In the rest of the State the gain has been but 12,500. It appears from these figures that if the cities are excluded, and those counties which have been newly settled, and others where the development of iron and coal industries has caused a rapid increase, the population of Ohio has become almost stationary, the increase in ten years having been inconsiderable.

PROF. HILGARD, of the Coast Survey, has made some interesting calculations from the last and previous censuses which show the steady westward movement of the center of the population of the United States. Prof. Hilgard uses the phrase "center of gravity of the population," which, imagining the country to be a plane loaded with inhabitants, distributed over it in the manner shown by the census, would be the point upon which the plane would balance. In 1840 this point was near the eastern foot of the Cumberland Mountains, in Virginia, upon the 39th parallel of latitude. In 1850 the census showed that the point had moved westward fifty-seven miles, to a point south of Parkersburg, Virginia. In 1860 it was eighty-two miles further west at a place south of Chillicothe, Ohio, not far from the line between Virginia and Kentucky. In 1870 the point was found to have moved forty-five miles further west, and it is now at Wilmington, Clinton county, Ohio. The great progress in the period between 1850 and 1860 was caused in part by the rapid settlement of Texas and of the Pacific coast. The professor thinks that the relative growth of the West will not be so great in the future as in the past, and that, therefore, the center of population will advance westward at a much slower rate than heretofore. He estimates that in the year 1900 the center will be found to be near Bloomington, Indiana, about forty miles southwest of Indianapolis.

THE custom house statistics of the commerce of New York for eleven months of the year show a substantial increase over the corresponding periods of previous years, though there was a decrease in the last month. Thus, while the imports in gold value, of general merchandise and specie, in November, were $34,137,120, showing a decrease of $8,979,517, as compared with the corresponding month last year, the aggregate for eleven months reached $329,404,132, a gain of $67,005,756 over the corresponding period in 1870. The receipts from customs for the eleven months this year, reached $139,725,512 60, against $127,614,859 14 same period last year. Free expert trade shows an important gain over 1870, there has been a marked decrease in the last month, when the clearances, in paper and coin values, were $21,357,126, a decrease of $8,482,485 from the exports in the same month last year. For the eleven months, however, the total clearances reach the sum of $316,126,607, against $322,546,903 same period in 1870.

The Great Pictorial Annual.

Hostetter's United States Almanac for 1872, for distribution, *gratis*, throughout the United States, and all civilized countries of the western hemisphere, is now published and ready for delivery, in the English, German, French, Norwegian, Welsh, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish languages, and all who wish to understand the true philosophy of health should read and ponder the valuable suggestions it contains. In addition to an admirable medical treatise on the causes, prevention and cure of a great variety of diseases, it embraces a large amount of information interesting to the merchant, the mechanic, the miner, the farmer, the planter and the financial man; and the calculations have been made for such meridians and latitudes as are most suitable for a correct and comprehensive National Calendar.

The nature, uses, and extraordinary sanitary effects of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the staple tonic and alterative of more than half the Christian world, are fully set forth in its pages, which are also interspersed with pictorial illustrations, valuable recipes for the household and farm, humorous anecdotes, and other instructive and amusing reading matter, original and selected. Among the annuals to appear with the opening of the year, this will be one of the most useful, and *may be had for the asking*. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two-cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood. The bitters are sold in every city, town and village, and are extensively used throughout the entire civilized world.

PURE FAMILY DRUGS.

PURE FAMILY DRUGS,

PURE FAMILY DRUGS AND MEDICINES."

Physicians' Prescriptions carefully compounded by competent persons, and the lowest possible prices charged.

PERFUMERY and TOILET ARTICLES of all kinds.

PURE WINES AND LIQUORS.

Of all descriptions, guaranteed Genuine and of my own importation, for medicinal purposes.

THE PUREST OLIVE OIL.

For Medicinal and Table Use, sold in quantities to suit purchasers, at the Lowest Prices, at

JOSEPH FLEMING'S DRUG STORE,
No. 84 MARKET STREET, corner of the Diamond, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Prices Reduced
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!

BLACK SILKS,
STRIPED SILKS,
PLAIN SILKS,
BLACK IRISH POPLINS,
COLORED IRISH POPLINS,
BLACK REPPS,
COLORED REPPS,
CASHMERES, MERINOS,
EMPRESS CLOTHS,
BIARRITZ, SATINES,
ALPACAS, MOHAIRS,
PLAIDS, SHAWLS.
SACQUES, SILK VELVETS,
VELVETEENS, QUILTS,
BLANKETS AND FLANNELS.

FINE FURS,
A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT.

James Caldwell,
118 and 120 FEDERAL ST.,
ALLEGHENY.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Whereas Letters of Administration *de bonis non*, with the Will of JAMES MCTURK, late of the Borough of Birmingham, Allegheny county, Pa., deceased, (John Redman, Executor of said Will being deceased), have been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to said Estate are notified to make immediate payment, and those having claims will present the same without delay to
R. B. CARNAHAN,
Administrator *de bonis non*,
No. 160 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

STENCILS

Special attention of the Iron, Steel and Edge Tool Manufacturers, and other persons using Steel Stamps, is directed to examine the neatness and durability of our Steel Letter Cutting, which is warranted by us in the State. All work warranted as represented at W. A. HUNTING'S Stencil and Engraving Rooms, 184 Liberty street, corner Virgin alley, Pittsburgh, Pa.

COREY & CO., COAL AND COKE DEALERS,
Are prepared to furnish a Superior Article of
PITTSBURGH COKE,
Either in Cars for Western Orders or to the City Trade, Wholesale or Retail.
Office—362 LIBERTY STREET, Pittsburgh.

BANK STATEMENTS.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK, LIBERTY, PITTSBURGH, at close of business, December 16, 1871.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts		$ 237,501 25
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation		389,000 00
Due from Redeeming and Reserve Agents	$156,400 58	
Due from other National Banks	5,488 92	
Due from other Banks and Bankers	15,483 78	177,373 28
Cash items, including stamps	$ 2,156 60	
Exchanges for Clearing House	37,178 84	
Bills of other National Banks	6,797 00	
Fractional Currency, including nickels	2,975 75	
Coin	1,847 92	
Legal Tender Notes	131,588 09	182,547 11
		$1,682,321 64

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid in	$ 400,000 00
Surplus Fund	41,000 00
Interest and Exchange	32,173 53
National Bank Circulation Outstanding	348,900 00
Individual Deposits	$344,176 79
Due to National Banks	317,774 98
Due to other Banks and Bankers	127,997 43
	$859,949 11
	$1,682,321 64

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, } ss
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY.

I, Cyrus Clarke, Jr., Cashier of the Tradesmen's National Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
CYRUS CLARKE, Jr., Cashier.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st day of December, 1871.
WM. BINGHAM, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:
A. BRADLEY,
S. S. MCKELVY, } Directors.
C. S. SHEA,

EDUCATIONAL.

PENNSYLVANIA
MILITARY ACADEMY,
CHESTER, DELAWARE COUNTY, PA.
(FOR RESIDENT CADETS ONLY).

Session Reopens Wednesday, Jan'y 3, 1872.

Thorough Instruction in Civil Engineering, the Mathematical and Natural Sciences, the Classics and English, is imparted by West Point Graduates and other competent Professors.

Attention is given to the Personal Habits and Moral Training of Cadets.

For Circulars apply to C. H. PAULSON, Esq., No. 71 Wood street, Pittsburgh, or to
Col. THEO. HYATT, President.

BEAVER
Seminary and Musical Institute.
Rev. R. T. TAYLOR, D. D., Principal.

Opens its Winter Session January 2, 1872.

An established, rigorous School, with an ample and efficient Faculty, aims not to be the cheapest, but the best.

Seminary Hall is now ready for Boys, who are under the immediate care of the Principal and sit at his table.
27th8

BUSINESS CHANCES.

LITHOGRAPHERS.

COPARTNERSHIP.

The Firm of A. HANI & CO., Lithographers, at 26 and 28 Fifth streets, have associated with them Messrs. W. C. and D. M. ARMOR, and the business will hereafter be conducted under the firm name of

HANI, ARMOR & FEURHAKE.

They execute, as heretofore, all orders for fine work such as Show Cards, Notes, Drafts, Show Cards, Bill Heads, Bonds, &c., on shortest notice, and in the highest style of the art.

JOHN KENNEDY'S SONS,
(SUCCESSORS TO JOHN KENNEDY & CO.,)
IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
GUNS, PISTOLS, CUTLERY,
Fishing Tackle,
SPORTING AMMUNITION, &c.,
NO. 38 FIFTH AVENUE.

HOLIDAY
ADVERTISING!
FOR THE
Most Attractive
AND
EFFECTIVE FORM,
APPLY TO
McClelland & Co.
ADVERTISING AGENTS,
59 FOURTH AVENUE.
TThs

NEW STORE.
D. P. WORK,
91 Smithfield Street,
(HOWARD'S BLOCK.)
Invites Attention to his Elegant Assortment of
Books
FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Comprising Illustrated Standard and Miscellaneous Books in Great Variety.
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
NEW JUVENILES,
ENGLISH TOY BOOKS,
GAMES, PICTURES, PUZZLES,
WRITING DESKS,
BACKGAMMON BOARDS,
POCKET BOOKS and
DIARIES FOR 1872.
A Handsome Line of Ladies' Fine Stationery; New Styles French and Colored Papers.

D. P. WORK,
91 Smithfield St., Howard's New Block,
TThs A few Doors Below Fifth Avenue.

G. Wm. Kredel & Co
Manufacturers of All Kinds of
Varnishes AND Japans,
Dalzell Building, Duquesne Way,
PITTSBURGH, PA.
FURNITURE VARNISH,
FURNITURE FLOWING VARNISH,
SHELLAC VARNISH,
DAMAR VARNISH,
PAINTERS' OUTSIDE VARNISH,
PAINTERS' INSIDE VARNISH
ASPHALTUM VARNISH,
COACH JAPAN DRYER,
TURPENTINE JAPAN DRYER,
BENZINE, JAPAN DRYER,
BOILED OIL, WALNUT STAIN,
Varnish
FOR COACH MAKERS' USES.
Black Iron Varnish,
TThs AND OTHER KINDS.

UPHOLSTERS.
E. EDMUNDSON & SON,
WHOLESALE ANF RETAIL MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN
MATTRESSES, COMFORTS,
BLANKETS,
And All Kinds of Bed Trimmings.
LACE CURTAINS, DRAPERIES
AND
Fine Curtain Goods and Trimmings, Window Shades, Cornices, &c.
55 MARKET STREET.

IRON AND STEEL RAILROAD
AND
STREET RAILS
OF BEST AMERICAN AND ENGLISH MAKES.
Chairs, Spikes, Fish Bars and Railroad Supplies.
Muck Bars, Old Rails, Scrap, Blooms.
American and South Pig Iron and Metals

CHAS. W. MATTHEWS,
133 Walnut Street, Philadelphia,
(Late RALSTON & MATTHEWS, 133

James T. Brady & Co

Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER AND COUPONS.

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Lowest Market Rates.

☞Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS, BONDS and GOLD.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

N. Holmes & Sons,

BANKERS.

We Offer for Sale a Limited Amount of the New Bonds of the

Allegheny Valley Railroad Co.,

BEARING 7 PER CENT. INTEREST,

Free of All Taxation,

Principal and Interest Guaranteed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES RECEIVED IN EX CHANGE AT MARKET RATES

N. HOLMES & SONS,

57 MARKET STREET, Pitt-burgh.

Commercial Banking Company,

ALLIANCE, OHIO.

The undersigned have formed a Copartnership under the above name to transact

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS,

AT ALLIANCE, OHIO, and will give careful and prompt attention to all business entrusted to them.

Special attention will be given to Collections in ALLIANCE, CANTON, MASSILLON, SALEM, LEETONIA, COLUMBIANA, NEW LISBON, and all other points in this part of Ohio.

Remittances made at Lowest Rates of Exchange.

Reference—Tradesmen's National Bank.

DAVID MORGAN, W. D. REGER,
J. C. G. MANFULL, H. P. McINTOSH,
R. W. TEETERS, Cashier.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

BANKERS.

WE OFFER FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING

DESIRABLE SECURITIES:

CITY OF PITTSBURGH WATER LOAN AND PENN AVENUE BONDS, bearing 7 Per Cent. Interest, at Par and Accrued Interest.

PITTSBURGH AND CONNELLSVILLE SIX PER CENT. BONDS, DUE IN 1887, First Mortgage on Tarde Creek Division, at 95 and Accrued Interest.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Streets.

FINANCE AND TRADE

TUESDAY EVENING, December 26, 1871.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	117¾	117¾	117¾
U. S. Bonds of 1881	109¾	109¾	109¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	102¾	109¾	109¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	111	111	111
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	114	114	114
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115	115¼	115¼
U. S. Bonds of 1868	115¼	115¼	115¼
10-40s	109¾	109¾	109¾
New 5s	108¾	108¾	108¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

United States 6s of 1881	108¾
United States 5-20s of 1862	109¾
United States 5-20s of 1864	109¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	111
United States 10-40s	109¾
United States 6-20s, January and July, 1865	114
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	115¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	115¼
Union Pacific Railroad	
Central Pacific Railroad	
Currency Packets	

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, December 26, 1871.

TUESDAY.—Yesterday being Christmas little or no business was transacted, and even to-day trade does not seem to have recovered its equilibrium. The rivers are pouring out large volumes of ice and ere long steamers will perform their accustomed trips. Meanwhile a large amount of coal will find its way to the cities west and south. There is more activity in the grocery market than for several weeks past, which state of affairs we account for on the belief that country as well as city merchants have come to the conclusion that they might, with profit to themselves anticipate their wants by one week, and fill up their depleted stocks now instead of waiting until the first week of the new year. The unusual number of merchants, for this season of the year, who are in the city now may have been brought here before their wonted time by the largely increased and still advancing rates in coffees, and if recent dispatches from Rio, and other coffee producing regions, which are all of the same tenor, can be relied upon, then their visit will not have been made a moment too soon. Coffees are selling to-day in our eastern ports at ¼ cent gold higher than the highest point reached in October last, and we were told yesterday by day from some of the heaviest importers to their agents here, saying choice coffees by the cargo are held by some parties as high as 23c gold. This reduced to a currency basis, with freight, and 3c @ 3½c profit for the jobber added, would make the value of the coffee 26c, which is really 1c @ 3c more than the jobbers are asking for same grade. We leave it to those interested to judge if this be a good time to supply their wants in this line. Raw sugars continue dull in the east, sal soda continued almost exclusively to the refiners. Bleaching salts are scarce and prices very firm. The demand for foreign dried fruits has been unusually and unexpectedly large, and, as a consequence, our dealers find themselves in short supply. Layer raisins active at an advance of fifteen cents per box. Currants are held at twelve cents per pound higher than one week ago. The receipts of New Orleans sweets are very meagre, and our jobbers are often obliged to put their customers off with a promise.

Below we give a revised report of actual sales of some of the most leading articles, premising that prices on other articles are unchanged:

BRANS.—A very limited supply in market, especially of prime navy. We note sales at $2 09@2 75 per bushel.

BROOMS.—In good demand at the following rates: Fancy $4 50; No. 1, $4 00; No. 2, $3 50; No. 3, $3 00; $2 75; common, $2 25@2 50.

BAKING POWDER.—Royal ½-lb cans $1 50 per dozen; ¼-lb cans $2 00 per dozen; 1-lb cans $6 00 per dozen; Banner 1 lb, $3 25 and $6 00 per dozen for the different sizes.

CANDLES.—Mould 12c; stearine, 14 ounces, 13½c; full weight 16c; star, 18 ounces, 16c; full weight 19½c.

C. C. SCRUTATIVE LYE.—Sales at $6 10 for Pennsylvania; Ohio brands from $5 00 to $5 50.

CARBON OIL.—Standard brands 21¾@22c.

CHEESE.—Receipts very light; stock here very much reduced; prices firm. We quote as follows: New York goshen 16¾@17c; Ohio do 15a15½c; Ohio factory 14a14½c; dairy 13a13½c.

HOMINY.—$5 00a5 50 per barrel.

FRUITS.—Domestic and foreign dried apples 7¾a 8c; peaches, bright new halves, 11c; old 10c; mixed 9a9½c; quarters 8½c; new prime 9c; old 10c; new 8c; larger raisins per box $3 00; half box $2 00; valencia do 12c; prunes, none in our in packages, 8@9c.

SUGARS.—Refined, standard A 10½c; extra C 10¼c; powdered 12¾c, cut loaf 14¾c; A coffee 12¾c; B 12¼c; BX C 12¾c; C 12c; extra C 11¾c; New Orleans, choice F R sugars, choice 11¾c; prime 10¾c; good 10¼11c; Cuba sugars (stable); New Orleans sugars, fair, 9¾c; good 10c; prime 10¾c; choice 11¾c.

COFFEE.—Active and very firm, at the following quotations: Fancy 26c; prime to choice, good 25c; fair 23a23½c; Java 22a24c; Laguayra 26a27c; Mocha 28c; roasted coffee, loose and in one lb packages, 30c.

SYRUPS.—Havemeyer & Edwards, 60c; D'Worth, Harper & Co.'s Perfection, 65c; White Honey, 63c; Extra Silver, 58c; Red Head, 50c; Lavender, 45c; Common, 25a40c.

NEW ORLEANS MOLASSES.—Old crop, 59c; new crop, —; Prime, 56c; Choice, 60c.

RICE.—Carolina choice, 10c; Rangoon, 8@8½c; Patna, 9@9½c.

SPICES.—Pepper, grain, 24c; pure ground, 30c; Cassia bark, 50c; Cloves, 45c; Nutmegs, $1 10a1 20.

LARD OIL.—No. 2, 85@90c; Extra No. 1 W. S., 87@ 90c.

SALT.—$1 85 from store, $1 75 car load.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, December 26, 1871.

Cattle.

The arrivals of cattle were light this week to this writing. The number of buyers in attendance was not quite so large as usual, many of them staying at home during the holidays. The market opened up with a little better feeling than existed at the close last week, and most all the cattle offered were sold at prices pretty much the same as ruled last week. The market closing firm; but few of the cattle offered were taken by New York and country buyers. The following were the closing rates: Extra cattle $7 00 @7 25; prime 1,200 to 1,300 steer $6 75@6 25; good to prime 1,100 to 1,200 $5 25@5 50; common to medium 1,000 to 1,100 $4 25@4 75; bulls, stags and cows sold to 1,500 $2 50@3 75; stock steers 800 to 1,000 $3 50@4 00.

Hogs.

The arrival of hogs fair. The market this week so far has not been the most favorable for buyers, the soft weather operating against trade. The feeling is inclined downward, though as yet good hogs are selling for fair prices. The receipts are not heavy for this time of the year, and if the weather would change hogs would advance again. The following are the rates at which hogs are selling: Extra, Philadelphia, $4 75; good to prime, Philadelphia, 225 to 250 lbs, $4 50@4 70; good to prime, New York, 180 to 220 lbs, $4 30@4 35; rough to common, $4 00.

Sheep.

The receipts of sheep light this week, so far consisting of 13 cars of through stock and 3 loaded for sale here. The market this week opens up with feeling not quite so good. Buyers are holding off, and as yet but one car has been sold. The following are the rates at which buyers are holding stock: Extra, 100 to 110 lbs, $5 75 to $6 00; good to prime, 85 to 90 lbs, $5 25 to $5 50; decent to fair, 75 to 80 lbs, $4 50 to $5 00; mean to common, 70 to 75 lbs, $4 00; foot rot and scalawags, by the head, $1 50 to 2 00.

Buffalo Cattle Market.

BUFFALO, December 26.—Cattle supply 116 cars, against 150 cars last week. Market brisk; prices 25c to 50c better; not enough to meet the demand; sales 261 Ohio steers, ranging from 1,154 to 1,750 lbs, at $5 00@6 87½; 246 Illinois steers, 1,039 to 1,600 lbs, at $4 75@6 50; 19 Michigan steers, 1,099 lbs, at $4 62½. Hogs—Supply 30,900; market quiet; sales at $5 40@5 62½ for medium to choice, closing weak.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 108¾@108¾.

NEW YORK, December 26—P. M.

GOLD.

Gold heavy at 108¾@108¾. Loans were from 6 to 1-32 per cent. for carrying. Clearings $20,750,000.

EXCHANGE.

Sterling exchange 109½.

MONEY.

Money opened at 7 per cent. gold, but late in the day was very strong and loaned as high as ¼ per cent. per day.

GOVERNMENTS.

Governments strong and higher.

Coupons 1881	117¾	5-20s, 1867	115¾
5-20s, 1862	109¾	5-20s, 1868	115¾
5-20s, 1864	109¾	10-40s	109¾
5-20s, 1865	111	Currency 6s	114¾
5-20s, 1865, new	114		

STATE BONDS.

State bonds strong. Tennessee advanced one per cent. and new South Carolinas ¾.

Missouris	97¾	Virginias, old	60
Tennessees, old	62¾	North Carolinas, old	31¾
Tennessees, new	63¾	North Carolinas, new	12
Virginias, new	60		

STOCKS.

The stock market started out strong and prices advanced until about mid-day, when a downward reaction set in. Wabash, Northwest and Rock Island were the features. Wabash sold up to 71¾, North west to 67¾, and Rock Island to 107¾. The movement in Wabash is generally believed to be purely speculative. Express stocks continue strong. At the close the market showed some weakness as compared with the early buoyancy, and a general reaction from the highest point of ⅛ to 1 and ¼ per cent.

Western Union	69	New Jersey Central	113¾
Quicksilver	35½	St. Paul	74¾
Adams Express	91	do pref	87¾
Wells, Fargo & Co	56	Toledo & Wabash	49¾
American Express	51	do pref	75
U. S. Express	66	Fort Wayne	96¾
Pacific Mail	58¾	Terre Haute	15
New York Central	94¾	do pref	45
N. Y. Central Scrip	89¾	Chicago & Alton	115
Erie	22¾	do Illinois Central	118
Erie preferred	63	Ohio & Mississippi	46¾
Harlem	118	C. C. & C	100
do pref	118	Burlington & Quincy	118
Reading	111¾	Lake Shore	92¾
Mich Central	112	Panama	134
Cleveland & Pitts	128	Illinois Central	132
Northwestern com'n	67¾	Union Pacific	28¾
do pref'd	89¾	C P Bonds	103¾
Rock Island	107¾	Union	93¾

*ex div.

Two failures were reported on the Produce Exchange to-day, one an extensive matting firm and the other in the flour and grain commission business.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Cotton quiet, in buyers favor; middling upland 20¾c. Flour dull but unchanged; superfine western and State $5 50a5 90; common to good $6 20a6 50; good to choice $6 40a7 00; white wheat extra $6 90a7 15; extra Ohio $6 35a7 30; St. Louis $6 60a9 25. Rye flour and corn meal unchanged. Whisky nominal; buyers at 90c; sellers 93c. Wheat steady; spring No 2, in store, $1 47a1 50; winter red western $1 56a1 59; amber $1 62½; white $1 70a1 72; choice No 2 Milwaukee, afloat, $1 62. Rye active; Canada, in bond, 95c; western, in store, 96c. Barley quiet and unchanged. Corn firm; new western mixed, afloat, 74½a75c; in store, 76c; old do, afloat, 79c. Oats dull; western and Ohio, in store and afloat, 54a 56c. White wheat extra $1 00a1 05. Hay and hops unchanged. Coffee firmer; Rio 19¾@19¾c. Sugar firm; fair to good refining 9¾@9¾c; Cuba 9¾@9¾. Molasses steady. Rice quiet at 8½@9c. Crude petroleum is refined 23c. Pork heavy; new mess $14 50; old $13; prime mess $12 25; new prime mess $11 50a11 60. Beef—mess, January, $9a11; extra $11a13; hams quiet at $24 00@24 50; tierce dull; India $19@20. Dressed hogs lower at $6 25. Middles quiet; long clear 7½c; short 7¾c; short ribs 7c; long and short clear, January, 7¾c. Cut meats steady; shoulders 6c; hams 9a10c. Lard steady; No 1 for prime steam 8¾@8¾c; prime kettle rendered 9¾c; January 9.10c; February 9.20@9.25c. Butter firm; Ohio 18a22c; Western 11a23c; State grades, cheese dull; common to prime 11a16c. Turpentine 60c.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, December 26.—Bagging firm and unchanged; heavy. Hemp and flax at 12¾a13c. Cotton dull; middling upland 20¾c. Flour quiet and firm; extra family $6 50. Grain quiet and firm; transactions entirely confined to local wants; no shipping demand prevails. Corn, white and yellow, in bulk shoulders 53½c; do sides, clear rib, 6½c; do clear 6¾c; packed; hams, sugar-cured, 13½c. Bacon—Small sales sides clear rib at 7½c. Lard in tierces at 9¾c. Hogs 10@10½c. Whisky quiet at 90c.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 26.—Cotton dull; low middling 18¾c. Flour and grain unchanged. Groceries steady. Linseed steady at 75c. Lard steady at 55c. Pork dull and declined; mess $13 25@13 37. Lard dull but unchanged; steam 9c. Bulk meats—Full prices asked but no demand: shoulders 5½c; sides 6a6¼@6c. Bacon dull and a shade lower; shoulders 6¾c; sides 7¾a7¾c. Hogs active and advanced to $4 25@4 50. Whisky firm at 91c.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, December 26.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat quiet; No. 1 white Michigan $1 49; amber Michigan $1 44½; No. 2 red $1 42; No. 1 do $1 36; rejected red $1 23. Corn firm; high mixed 55c; low do 47½; yellow 49@50c; Michigan 49c. Oats dull; No. 1 white 36c; No. 2 do 34c; Michigan 32c. Clover seed steady at $6 25. Hogs firm at $4 60a4 80.

COTTON MARKETS.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 26.—Cotton held to 19¾c.

Nashville.

NASHVILLE, December 26.—Cotton dull; low middling 18¾c.

Philadelphia Cattle Market.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26.—Cattle very dull; market favors buyers. Extra cattle sold at $7 @7 25. Sheep dull; market favors buyers; 10,000 head at 5¾@6¾c per lb. Hogs firm at $6 beat 00 per cwt.

Detroit Market.

DETROIT, December 26.—Wheat in good demand at full prices. No. 1 white Michigan, $1 39; amber, $1 36. Oats firm. Clovereed dull at $6 20. Hogs quiet and weak at $4 85.

HOTELS.

ARLINGTON HOTEL

Formerly NIXON HOUSE,

ALLIANCE, OHIO.

First-class SAMPLE ROOM for Commercial Travelers.

FRANK M. KERR,

PROPRIETOR.

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Sheffield Steel Works.

SINGER, NIMICK & CO.,

Manufacturers of All Descriptions of

STEEL.

BEST REFINED TOOL CAST STEEL,
CAST STEEL PLOW AND SPRING STEEL,
CIRCULAR AND LONG SAW PLATES,
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AXLES AND STEEL TIRE,
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SPECIAL FORGINGS MADE TO ORDER.

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Manufacturers of all descriptions of

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OFFICE AND WORKS:

Corner Penn and 17th Streets, Ninth Ward, PITTSBURGH

BLACK DIAMOND STEEL WORKS

PARK, BROTHER & CO.,

Manufacturers of all descriptions of

STEEL,

Office and Warehouse, Cor. Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Railroad Streets, Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh Steel Works.

ANDERSON & WOODS

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BEST REFINED CAST STEEL,

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION; ALSO, BEST

Refined German Plow and Spring Steel

CORNER ROSS AND FIRST AVENUE,

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CLASS MANUFACTURERS.

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ESTABLISHED 1808.

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PHŒNIX, SLIGO, PITTSBURGH AND EMPIRE GLASS WORKS.

WM. M'CULLY & CO.

Manufacturers

WINDOW GLASS AND DRUGGISTS' GLASSWARE

Also, WINE, PORTER AND MINERAL WATER.

Office, 18 and 20 WOOD STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.

P. S.—We make a specialty of the manufacture of FRUIT JARS, making the Cork The Fruit Jars the most desirable Self-sealers in the market.

RAILROAD IRON

AT LOW PRICES,

For Side Tracks, Coal Roads, &c.

Also, SPLICE BARS AND SPIKES. Apply to

HITCHCOCK, McCREERY & CO.,

349 LIBERTY STREET, 2d stairs.

CORN—

PRIME SHELLED CORN,

In store and to arrive. For sale by

D. WALLACE.

J. B. HOYT & CO.'S

UNEQUALED

White Oak Tanned Leather Belting.

Also, Best Quality of LACE LEATHER sold by

G. N. HOFFSTOT & CO.,

253 Liberty street, Sole Agents for Allegheny county.

Feathers and Beeswax

ALL GRADES.

F. G. CRAIGHEAD,

262 LIBERTY STREET

OCEAN STEAMERS.

Date of Departures from New York.

Cuba	Dec. 27	Liverpool.
Wyoming	Dec. 27	Liverpool.
Tarifa	Dec. 28	Liverpool.

1872.

China	Jan. 2	Liverpool.
Minnesota	Jan. 3	Liverpool.
Cortes	Jan. 6	Liverpool.
Idaho	Jan. 10	Liverpool.
Missouria	Jan. 13	Liverpool.
Washington	Jan. 13	France.

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

Greensboro, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

GREENSBORO, PA., December 26, 1871.

River falling, with ten feet water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 38 at 5 P. M. F.

Brownsville, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, PA., December 25, 1871.

River falling, with eight feet six inches water. The ice is gone here. Weather cloudy; thermometer 47 at 4 P. M. C.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, December 25, 1871.

River falling slowly, with eight feet three inches water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 36 at 7 P. M. C.

Oil City.

Special Dispatch to Commercial by Western Union Line.

OIL CITY, PA., December 26, 9 P. M., 1871.

There are about 42 inches in the channel and stationary, and some ice running. Weather cloudy and cool.

Parker's Landing, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PARKER'S LANDING, December 26, 1871.

The river is full of ice here, and about at a stand.

Wheeling, W. Va.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. VA., December 26, 1871.

The gorges were all broken, down as far as Steubenville, at 7 P. M. The gorge at the Sisters will probably break before midnight. The boats here all fired up this afternoon, and went into safer harbors, to avoid the heavy ice expected. Weather cloudy and warm. M.

Ironton, O.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

IRONTON, O., December 26, 1871.

River rising; no ice running. The Chesapeake passed up at 4 P. M.; the Wild Boy left for Catlettsburgh. Weather warm and clear; wind west. K.

Four of the Niagara's Barges Lost.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

EAST LIVERPOOL, O., December 26, 1871.

Four of the steamer Niagara's barges, fitted with coal, were carried away by the breaking up of the ice in the river this morning. Two of them have since sunk, and the other two were in a dangerous situation when last heard from. River rising slowly. H.

For Latest River Dispatches See Outside.

RIVER NEWS.

THE marks last evening indicated eight feet and rising. The weather was pleasant. The prospect for navigation being resumed is good.

AMONG the first boats to arrive will be the St. Charles from Cincinnati with a big trip.

THE favorite packet Julia No. 2 is in port. She will have dispatch for Zanesville.

THE steamer Argosy, Capt. Goodwin, will resume her trips to Wheeling.

CAPT. John A. Williams expects to get his boat down on the present rise.

THE Allegheny ice was expected to pass the city last night.

WE are indebted to our friend J. C. G. for favors. Thanks.

THE movement of the ice will cause other movements before many days. So mote it be.

FORTY-two inches reported at Oil City; weather warm and ice running.

THE Brownsville and Geneva packets will resume their trips as soon as the ice will permit.

THE H. C. Yeager loaded at New Orleans this trip for the Ohio river.

THE Belle Vernon is in a good harbor at Shawneetown.

THE Ohio river is reported open from Pittsburgh up.

THE towboat Storm has resumed her trips to Beaver.

THE steamer Elizabeth, Captain Houghton, has resumed her trips to Elizabeth. She arrived and departed yesterday on time.

DISPATCHES from Brownsville yesterday reported the ice gorged at Cooks-town and Limetown, but clear above.

THE coal men were busy with small tow-boats getting things in order for the expected coal boat rise.

THE packet E. Bennett, Capt. Z. W. Carmack, will be the first boat to leave for Brownsville and Geneva.

WE publish in this day's COMMERCIAL a list of packets that were running in 1832—a long time ago —when Isaac Leech traveled down The Ohio.

AMONG the first boats to leave for St. Louis will be the Iron Sides and Comet accompanied by a fleet of barges.

PILOTS say the Mississippi river, between St. Louis and Cairo has changed a great deal in the last few years, and it is hard to find the channel.

THE Dexter, Prescott and Cricket have been rescued from their perilous position in the ice at Keokuk, and are now in safe harbors.

THE steamer Nick Longworth, at Cairo, from New Orleans, has for Pittsburgh 332 barrels molasses and 60 hogsheads sugar.

DON'T forget that the far-famed St. Charles, Capt. C. A. Bravo, is announced for Cincinnati and all way ports. Passengers and shippers will bear this in mind. She will be the first boat out.

THE crews of the steamers St. Charles, Juniata and Arrington left on yesterday to bring up the 4 boats. The latter boat is reported on her way up, and was due last night.

NASHVILLE.—The *Avalanche*, as of Sunday says: Yesterday and up to noon to-day there was five feet water on the Shoals. A very different state of affairs just now. Only four river men are still hopeful, and looking for a rise between this and New Years.

THE coal in the pools ready to go out may be set down at about ten millions of bushels. The estimate that will get out depends on how much water we have and how long it keeps up. Passing boats through the locks is not a very speedy operation.

MEMPHIS, December 22.—The *Avalanche* says: The new tow-boat Crescent City was at our wharf all yesterday repairing a defective boiler. She left her huge tow at the foot of Reeves's bar, and will likely not proceed further up for several days.

TWENTY-FOUR steamers, valued at $1,000,000, were built at Jeffersonville, Louisville and New Albany during 1871, showing an increase of seven. Those completed, boat building will greatly increase at Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and other points above the falls, in addition to extensive repairs.

THE Little Condor, with a tow of five barges, drawing 18 inches, containing 4,000 bbls salt from Pomeroy for Cincinnati, left Gallipolis on Monday for Bar. While there, a large floating fiend of ice carried off the shanty-boat and then, all of which, on to the sharp work of Captain Joseph Burnside and crew, was safely landed in a small creek and keep water near Foster's Landing in good condition.

FOR the past two years Ralph Hicks, a son of Captain Frank Hicks, of the steamer Belle Lee, has satisfied the public of the value of the coal trade and a year he has been totally blind. A few weeks ago Ralph started for New Orleans, a trip which was performed by Dr. Pope, an eminent oculist, who succeeded in entirely restoring the sight of Ralph is an industrious young man of exemplary conduct, and very popular with all. His many friends will rejoice at the restoration of his sight. He is doubtless as happy a prince over the result.

PASSED AWAY.—Died yesterday, at East Liberty, Captain Robert Kilgore, one of the oldest and most successful pilots that ever held a wheel of a western steamer. He was engaged for years on the old Cincinnati packets Hibernia and Pennsylvania. It was the general remark among boatmen that "Doctor Kilgore could see as well at night as in the other time. At all events, the doctor was never known to hurt any boat on his watch; he was also a large man with a big and noble heart; generous to a fault, and had loads of friends but no enemies. Truly, a good man has passed away.

THE St. Louis *Republican* of Saturday says: "The several steamers that left here after the breaking of the gorge at Widow Waters have not reached Cairo yet. The Mary E. Poe is at Jefferson Barracks, tied up to the bank. She is drawing three feet coming in. The Fanny Lewis is at the bank of Widow Waters, drawing four feet. The Stock City lies aground at Price's Landing, with head down stream and heavy ice around her, but is considered safe. The M. J. Wicks, Montezuma and Mary McDonald, all drawing four feet, have gone to the bank at Grand Tower. The Jno. Hurley is at the bank at Neeley's Landing drawing three feet and a half. The capitol City, drawing four feet, is aground on Willard's headed up stream and her bow sparred up. She is surrounded by heavy ice. The R. J. Lockwood, drawing five feet, lies about up in a few miles below Willard's, there being only three and one-half feet in the bar at that point. None of the boats have not been heard from. The regular channel at Widow Waters has been gorged for some time; a channel has been cut on the east side of the Illinois side, with a depth of six and one-half feet of water. The bar in front of Rialto Island is dry and extends for half a mile. By a dispatch received yesterday from Belmont, we learn that the river is gorged between Cairo and Columbus. The Oceanus, from New Orleans, is at Belmont, and can't get up. The Central Transit steamer is stuck in the gorge."

ST. LOUIS SUNDAY'S *Republican* on the Situation.—The river here, under the influence of the warm south wind and the gentle rain fall of the previous day, rose about ten inches yesterday. Should the weather remain warm we anticipate a rise of several feet, but such a continuance is hardly probable. The weather yesterday was exceedingly stormy. A perfect gale blew from the south-south-west during the afternoon. The steamers were all strongly cabled to their wharves, but several lines parted and the steamers were blown with heads downward. Fortunately, however, the heat broke of all held fast, and no boat received injury. The Peoria packet Hartford was broken loose by the gale at the lower end, and was blown with the stern around, square into the current. The cable-chains of the ferry-dock broke, and the wharf-boat was blown out from the bank. A team on the apron at the time was precipitated into the river and drowned. Several boats left for the South yesterday. We have no certain report concerning the river below.

Captain James McCord, Secretary Boatmen's Association, St. Louis:

DEAR SIR.—The committee appointed at the Louisville National Boatmen's Convention adjourned Saturday evening, until January's having completed the proposed amendments, and presented them to the Board Committee on Commerce, with such arguments, explanations, &c., as time would permit. As Congress will adjourn on the 21st, there is no probability that the bill will be further considered until after the holidays. There will, however, be some of our committee here at the time, with full instructions to notify others if their presence should be deemed necessary. It is not proposed for the whole committee to reassemble here again at any one time, but each to hold themselves in readiness to come to relieve others that want to leave, so that we may not be left without a representative when Congress is in session. Nothing enacted without material changes. The only important difference that has arisen in the minds of our committee in the preparation of the bill, was that of giving to one class of tow-boats a greater pressure of steam than allowed to others, as was contended by my Western colleagues that coal boats, or boats carrying low grade coal, or other coals of a little they desired to tow, should be allowed a greater pressure of steam than those engaged in the carrying of higher grade coals. Their argument was, that we should thus secure the influence of the coal kings of Pittsburgh in Congress, and give the consumer of coal cheap fuel. The argument was a good one if the result could be obtained; but, being the only representative from St. Louis, I could not see it just in that light, for why we should secure the influence of Pittsburgh coal men, we should be sure to excite the opposition of another interest on the Mississippi, which is now looking for cheap fuel, viz: lumber, flour, pork, etc. Our friends engaged on the Lower Mississippi, I think, will not appreciate the argument of giving to the coal men any special privileges greater than they have heretofore enjoyed, on the ground of giving them cheap fuel. They have had some experience in that particular. Coal is, like corn or any other staple article of commodity, regulated by supply and demand, and Congressmen are not so dull that they will not see this point, however well disguised, and they will see that other point, too, that of giving to capitalists who are able to own their boats and cargoes, an advantage not enjoyed by the poor man, who, perhaps, may not be able to own even more than part of a boat, if I was in place our committee would have abandoned that idea, and so amended our bill, before submitting it, that it would recommend itself without alteration. If we succeed in passing the bill, while it does not give to freight and passenger boats as high a pressure of steam as it proposed for towboats, I think all should be satisfied with it under the circumstances, as the pressure will be fifteen per cent. higher than we had under the old law on boilers already built, and on new boilers as much as the tensile strength of the iron will justify. The new law, better did the old one, makes no distinction in boilers, whether used on towboats or passenger boats, but the ruling of the Secretary of the Treasury exempted towboats from the letter of the old law, so far as steam was concerned, and left that to be fixed by the inspectors. But the present Secretary refused to grant that ruling, consequently towboats are cut down in their steam to a point below which they can manage their tows, as they allege, and I believe that is the case, while passenger and freight boats have not been materially changed in that particular. A joint resolution was introduced in the House today from the Committee on Commerce, and passed by that body, and, I presume, will be passed by the Senate, which gives to all towboats for six months 150 pounds of steam on a 42-inch boiler, instead of 110 pounds, as the law prescribes. We tried to have the same extended to all boats, but the committee would not consent to include any others. Our chairman, Thomas Sherlock, of Cincinnati, is authorized to draw upon the different ports for their proportion of expenses for printing, &c., thus far incurred; and I have directed him to draw upon you for the amount for St. Louis to pay, and, if approved by our directors, they will order it paid.

"R. W. GOULD."

Boating in the Olden Time.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

PITTSBURGH, December 26, 1871.

I enclose herewith a list of steamers comprising a line of packets running between Louisville and New Orleans as published in an old Pittsburgh paper dated December 19, 1832.

The list was cut out of the paper—the *Statesman* I think—several years ago by myself and pasted in my memorandum book where I now find it. It appeared as an advertisement. I have no doubt the old Captain Evans will be glad to have it as an item for his column of river news. It will be interesting to many old river men.

One of the Captains, named Shrodes, of the Mediterranean, I believe is still living, and the proprietor of a hotel in Philipsburg on the Ohio river opposite Rochester at least he was there bale and hearty about one year ago when I last saw him. I can give no information concerning the others.

Very truly yours,

J. G. C.

LINE of steam packets running between Louisville and New Orleans in 1832, with the names of their Masters and directors that presented them:

Name.	Master.	Tons.
Mediterranean	Shrodes	600
Homer	Gaff	500
Uncle Sam	Hulbert	469
Philadelphia	Pennywit	460
Belfast	Jackson	435
Henry Clay	Holler	434
Baltic	Baldwin	407
Splendid	James	400
Sheffield	Birch	372
Hiberia	Shallerop	356
Envoy	Reeder	356
Hudson	Casey	344
Orleans	Davis	336
Louisiana	Ryan	309
Kentuckian	Buckner	285
Farmer	Fullerton	285

DIRECTORS.—J. D. Colmesnil, B. R. Mollwaine, H. J. Forsyth, A. G. Sloo, J. Beckwith, D. F. Roeder, P. Pentz, C. M. Strader, C. Bell, T. B. Dale, Wm. Buchanan, T. K. Byrne, P. Anderson, L. James, J. J. Bland, W. Baird.

IMPORTS BY RAIL AND RIVER.

Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railroad.

Lob Son & Co, 4 bbls butter 3 kegs lard 7 pkgs a butter 7 bbl eggs. W H Graff & Co. 34 do 20 do. G Hoevteler & Co, 5 bbls gine. Morgan & Co, 4 coke cars. A M Hinsman, 2 cars iron. Voigt Mahood & Co, 10 bbls d peaches. Milligan & Co, 10 bbls spirits. Park & Co, 1 cask zinc. C O Perrin 3 cases honey. Hubbard & Graff, 1 box axes. Rees & Jones, 1 anvil. Case F & O, 19 bbls brandy 10 do gin. Wallace & Co, 5 bbls lacquer. Bakewell & Co, 1 cask lamp trimmings. Dickson Stewart & Co, 1 car pig iron. Harris & K, 2 bdls glue. D Torry, 1 bbl blankets. G G Hussey, 1 crate coffee. W Mullins, 1 safe, 1 car iron. Dilworth, H & co, 4 bbls nuts. McQuistan & K, 25 reservoirs. Maloney & L, 9 crates iron. Voigt, Mahood & co, 323 saddles venison, 90 bbls d peaches. Schoonaker & co, 200 bbls flour, 1 do molasses. Hoevteler & co, 1 car bones. J Dunlap, 12 boxes rags. Brown & co 100 bbls flour. Lloyd & Mechling, 50 do h wines. D Wallace, 100 flour. J H Smith, 1 pkg tea. J Fullerton & S, 1 cask lozenges. Henry Rea, jr, 2 bbls cider, 1 kg a butter. Woodworth & O, 600 bush potatoes. Rev J Allison, 2 bx books. J McCallin, 1 tx rubes. J S Dilworth, 6 bbls sugar. Johnston & co, 10 do do, 25 bbls molasses. P Sellers & co, 100 tce lard. T C Jenkins & Bro, 200 bbls flour. Wm. Mullins, 2 cars s steel. Rinehart & Boyd, 1 pkg Crawford's Cheese. Meltor & Hoen, 1 piano. Marshall, K & co, 226 sks wheat.

Receipts of Blooms Pig Metal, and Ore.

The following are the receipts of metal for the past twenty-four hours:

PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD, P. R. CO., LESSEE.

	Cars.		Cars.
Nimick & Co, m	18	Meredith, F & Co, m	5
Hallman & H, m	1	Voegtly, H & Co, m	1
Lower Union Mills, m	3	Brown & Co, m	1
Lewis, R. D. & Co, o	2	Graf, B & Co, o	5

THE VERY LATEST.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

PARIS, December 26.—M. Thiers delivered a powerful speech in the Nationalm Assembly to-day, in opposition to levying income tax.

The Germans have seized a prominent citizen of the town of Revin, in the department of Ardennes, because of a quarrel between Bavarian troops quartered there and the French people. It is announced that the Germans are making a census of the private fortunes of the wealthiest citizens of the invaded departments.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 26.—An imperial decree appears in print to-day, fixing the conscription for the Russian army for the year 1872 at six men in every one thousand.

KU-KLUX OUTBREAK.

Outrage in Saline County, Mo., on Christmas Day.

ST. LOUIS, December 26.—The *Democrat's* special from Sedalia, Mo., says: Christmas day witnessed a perpetration of the Ku-Klux at Marshall, Saline county, Mo., and vicinity. A large number of armed men turned out in pursuit of the negroes. Patrols were placed near the town, and *every* traveler halted and questioned. All business was suspended, and mob violence reigned supreme. It is not known how many negroes were killed, but Edward Lyon, with his Marshall at eleven o'clock, saw the dead bodies of five—two hanging by the neck, three lying in the road and one terribly wounded, having his shoulders shot away. At latest accounts a crowd of armed men were starting out, swearing they would clear out every negro in the county.

POLITICAL.

Another Letter from Greeley on the Presidency.

ST. LOUIS, December 26.—The latest issue of the *Canvasian*, published at Lexington, Mo., contains the following letter, addressed to its editor:

New York, October 18, 1871.—P. Donan, Esq., Lexington, Missouri—My Dear Sir: I have yours of the 14th inst. I have no doubt that the policy you suggest is that which your party ought to adopt. They should have run Salmon P. Chase in 1868. Then, as the result of that contest, the return of genuine peace and thrift would have been promoted. That policy gave you more last year in Missouri than could have been achieved by party triumph. You could err as to the proper candidate. I am not the man you need. Your party is mostly free trade, and I am a ferocious protectionist. I have no doubt that I might be nominated and elected by your help, but it would place us all in a false position. If I, who am adversely interested, can see this, I am sure your good sense will, on reflection, realize it. You must take some man like Gratz Brown, or Trumbull, or General Cox, late Secretary of the Interior, and thus help to pacify and unite our country and

Yours,

[Signed,] HORACE GREELEY.

Report of the South Carolina Investigating Committee.

COLUMBIA, S. C., December 26.—The report of the Legislative Joint Investigating Committee, which has been sitting in New York during the summer, with B. F. Whittemore as chairman, has appeared. It makes nearly three hundred printed pages, and gives an elaborate review of the administration of the State finances since the installation of the present government. Regarding the State debt the committee declare that they cannot believe other than the fearful truths which stare them in the face; that the bonds and stocks printed by the American Bank Note Company, twenty-two millions five hundred and forty thousand dollars, represent the liabilities of the State, for which the faith or credit of the State, however unlawfully pretended, has been pledged for payment. The contingent liability incurred by railroad endorsements swells the total to twenty-nine millions. The committee, in its report says: The committee, in view of the atrocity of these disclosures, the work of the present administration, or rather a ring composed of leading officers of the Government of the State, unheastatingly say the Republican party, which dominates supreme in power, must show its condemnation of such treachery and knavery by immediate and thorough efforts, by legislative enactments as well as by every other deliberative measure, to bring to justice those who have prostituted the authority with which they have been clothed, and so flagrantly and criminally imperilled trusts to them confided."

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

A young man named William Schuster was run over by a locomotive, near the Union depot in Cleveland, on Christmas day, and instantly killed.

The Grand Duke Alexis arrived in Cleveland yesterday, and was received in state with the Mayor and Common Council. He will remain until to-morrow.

Thomas Hawkins shot and killed Port Jelton, during a quarrel on Christmas night, near Cowan, on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. Jelton was the seventh of his family who have met with a violent death.

Wang Haig, son of the late President of the Ningyung Company, was buried with imposing Celestial ceremonies on Christmas, at San Francisco. Nearly one hundred carriages were in the procession, and professional mourners and five wagon loads of provisions and flowers.

The mysterious wild man, who had been the subject of sensation in California for some years, was shot dead by a citizen residing near Livermore Pass, whom he attempted to kill. He was simply a dangerous lunatic. His name and nativity were not ascertained.

Jacob Barker, a broker, well known in financial circles throughout the United States, died in Philadelphia yesterday, aged ninety-three.

John Hampton, first officer of the ship Success, was accidentally drowned; Mrs. Waldron accidentally caught fire and burned to death; H. Bush was shot dead by Joel Chandler; two persons were dangerously stabbed and two dangerously shot by assault; two were accidentally killed; nine boys were severely injured by a gunpowder explosion, two dangerously; during Christmas day and night the police made one hundred and two arrests for all manner of offences, in which drunkenness predominated. The above all occurred in New Orleans on Sunday and Christmas.

On Christmas day a bloody affray took pla e at East Arlington, Vermont, in a drinking saloon. Farwell and Lawrence, Africo-Americans, were the five persons, two of whom have died and two more are mortally wounded. One of the victims was Farwell's son, eight years of age. Farwell and Lawrence are under arrest.

At Shield's mill, seven miles west of Seymour, Ind., on the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, an old cannon, being fired off to celebrate Christmas, burst and instantly killed Wm. Dobbin and a blacksmith named Crews. A young man named August Kaned had his left hand so badly injured that it had to be amputated.

During a pyrotechnical display at Macon, Georgia, Christmas night a fire ball was thrown into a store, which ignited a large stock of fire-works, and the explosion that followed set fire to the building and burned out four stores. Loss about $60,000.

A positive denial is given to the report that the Spanish man-of-war Vasco de Nunez fired a blank cartridge at the steamer Prometheus when she was leaving St. Thomas. The *Constancia* newspaper, of Havana, says that orders had previously been issued to vessels of the Spanish navy to be civil and annoying the Florida, and to retire from the vicinity.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 26, 1871.

SERENADE TO EX-COLLECTOR MURPHY.

Ex-Collector Thomas C. Murphy was serenaded at his residence on Thirty-ninth street this evening by a very large assemblage of his friends, the music being furnished by Jim Crow's fifth regiment band. Mr. Murphy made a short speech, being introduced by ex-Mayor Opdyke.

ARRIVAL.

The steamer Europa, from Glasgow, arrived this evening.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 2.—River six feet two inches, and falling to-day; will probably be rising to-night. Navigation is unobstructed each way; very little ice running; drizzling to-night.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 26.—Cloudy; river falling. Arrived—Emma Elliot, from New Orleans. Departed—Cleborne, for Cincinnati; Jennie Vender, for White River; Bismarck, for New Orleans. There is but five and a half feet on Reeves's Bar.

Steamer Kate Kearney Sunk.

ST. LOUIS, December 26.—A dispatch from Capt. Metherson states that the stern wheel steamer, Kate Kearney, sunk in twenty-five feet of water at the head of Island No. 82. It is not thought that anything can be saved except the hull. The cargo, of sugar, and her machinery and outfit. She is owned by Capt. McPherson and Clerk H. H. Rodeman; valued at $15,000; insured for $11,500 in Union, Farmers' National, National, Cincinnati, and Franklin, Zeins and Peabody, Wheeling.

VICKSBURG, December 25.—The Kate Kearney, a large, new stern wheel boat, sunk to-night at the head of Island No. 82. The cargo will be overturned and nothing is to be seen except the pilot house. No lives lost.

COTTON MARKETS

Savannah.

SAVANNAH, December 26.—Cotton steady and in fair demand; middlings 19c.

Charleston.

CHARLESTON, December 26.—Cotton quiet; nothing doing; middlings 19c.

Mobile.

MOBILE, December 26.—Cotton quiet; middlings 18½c.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Common Pleas—Judges Sterrett, Stowe and Collier.

The argument list occupied the attention of this Court yesterday.

Rachel Graham was granted a decree of divorce from her husband John Graham.

In the case of Hostetter vs. Warden, Frew & Co., W. M. Magee, Esq., was appointed to take testimony.

A peremptory mandamus was asked to compel the Supervisors of Rivers and Charliers townships to build a bridge over Charliers run. The mandamus was refused on the ground that the bridge would not be a paying institution.

In the other courts no business of importance was transacted.

On the Pan Handle.

Christmas was celebrated on the eastern end of the Pan Handle Railroad by a couple of "smash-ups." At Fairview a couple of freight cars left the track and performed sundry gymnastics in the vicinity, keeping the travel back for just twelve hours. At Midway another freight train preferred the ties to the track, but fortunately the latter got adequate locomotion of their kind, blockaded the road for about four and a half hours, keeping the Steubenville accommodation, due here yesterday morning, just that much late. Fortunately, as far as heard from, no one was hurt in either accident.

At the Fifth Avenue Methodist Church there was a social gathering of the parents, children and friends of the church yesterday at ten o'clock, A. M.

Religious exercises were conducted by the pastor of the church, Rev. I. W. McKeever, and Rev. J. D. Herr. The children sang Christmas carols. Addresses were delivered by Thomas F. Scott, and Daniel Schindler, of the Christian *Instinct*, after which, by request, Mr. D. G. Fickes read a beautiful and appropriate poem. After these exercises had been concluded, a liberal supply of sweetmeats was distributed to each child and adult, and the audience was dismissed with the benediction.

For Indigestion, Dyspepsia, depression of spirits and general debility in their various forms, also as a preventive against fever and ague, and other intermittent fevers, the "Ferro-Phosphorated Elixir of Calisaya," made by Caswell, Hazard & Co., of New York, and sold by all druggists, is the best tonic, and as a tonic for patients recovering from fever or other sickness it has no equal. MW

CITY MATTERS.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Modern Medo dramas as a rule are not the most popular of dramatic productions, at any rate with the thoughtful and educated frequenters of the theater. There are many old dramas of this class which are an exception to the rule, and which are faultless in construction, strong in dialogue, and enjoyable in performance. But the melodramas which have been produced during the past ten years cannot be said to possess all, if any, of these desiderata, but on the contrary are constructed with the view to embody so much of the sensational as to sacrifice all the above mentioned qualities thereto. Just at the present time these pieces are being produced with alarming rapidity, and the stage throughout the country is flooded with such material as is found in "Across the Continent," "Help," "Under the Gaslight," and a hundred other plays of the same class. It is a sad sign of the times that the theatrical managers of our large cities find it remunerative to provide such questionable pabulum for their patrons.

Bartley T. Campbell's "Through Fire," if it is anything, is a melodrama, and we are in candor forced to admit, that whatever its excellencies, as it has some, they are more than overshadowed by the evils of that school of drama to which we have referred above. We should like to see the audacious and heartily congratulate Mr. Campbell upon some portions of the dialogue, which are really good and far superior to any similar play which we have seen. But that the play is uneven in this respect we must confess, and unwillingly assert that many very weak portions are observable. We do not suppose that Mr. Campbell claims for his production the quality of originality, or that he credits himself with the creation of anything new in the matters of stage effect or business. The piece is a well managed mixture of familiar scenes from other plays cleverly altered, modified and remodeled, with new words put in the mouths of the familiar characters. The first and second acts vividly recall the opening scenes of "Solon Shingle," the third act brings to our recollection Byron and "Across the Continent," the first part of the fourth bears a striking resemblance to portions of the "Streets of New York," while the latter part reproduces the mountain scenes in "No Thoroughfare," and the last act is a repetition of the closing scenes in the "Lady of Lyons."

The first act of the play introduces an honest, industrious clerk *Bert Bristow* (Mr. Gotthold) and a dissipated dishonest colleague *Gus. Tevis* (Mr. Rowe). The action opens in the counting room of Josslyn & Co., and it is discovered in a conversation between the clerks that *Bert* is in love with *Grace Josslyn*, (Miss Johnson the daughter of *Adam Josslyn*, (Mr. Dean) the banker. *Harris Josslyn*, (Mr. Duffield) a nephew of the principal of the house, is also in love with Grace. *Tevis* plans a number of doubloons which form a part of a special deposit with the bank and is caught in the act of opening the safe by *Harris*. The two concoct a plan to accuse *Bert* of the theft, which is of course done, and as *Mr. Josslyn* considers the evidence of crime sufficient *Bert* is discharged, but not prosecuted. In this act *Grace* enters the office and she and *Bert* indulge in the wildest love making, a situation which the surroundings in the scene make very improbable. Another weak point too is that *Bert*, without any opportunity of ascertaining *Jarvis's* plot, while protesting his innocence, openly accuses that gentleman of having full knowledge of it.

To second act brings *Bert* home, where he tells his mother of his discharge and introduces his extraordinary servant girl *Jenny*, (Miss Georgie Dickson) who is the sweetheart of *Sam Badgett*, (Mr. Irving) the messenger of Josslyn & Co. *Sam*, who is scarcely seen in the first act, has,in some way not explained, found out all about the plot against *Bert* and accuses to him *Jarvis* and *Tevis*. *Bert* visits *Tevis* and bitterly acknowledges his perfidy and agrees to with *Bert* to accuse *Jarvis* of his crime. *Jarvis* is introduced preparing to go to Boston, and with him appear two detectives which are altogether unnecessary to the action of the piece, to *wit*, an impossible kind of negro servant and a mercenary bank proprietor, who pushes his pistol in a drawing-room and obtains money by that means from *Jarvis*. He subsequently effects a similar attempt on the part of *Bert* to effect the arrest of *Jarvis* in New Haven Railroad Depot where Allegheny Valley tickets are sold.

In the third act a skip of three years is made, and *Bert*, now *Mr. Lee*, a wagoner, is discovered on the plains with *Sam*, the reason of their being there and how they came there not being explained. This is an act of mysterious meetings. *Grace* and *Jenny* (who is now her maid) both appear in the scene, and *Jenny*, who is a very talented servant, sings two excellent songs. *Bert* makes himself known to *Grace*, and after protestations of love making, begs her not to sleep in the ranch as he fears *something*. She sleeps in her wagon, and *Jarvis*, who has designs upon her cause turned up in the same place, employs Indians to fire the ranch with the hope of destroying *Grace*. As she sleeps in the wagon, with the canvas and two other persons, who accompany, escape uninjured.

The fourth act is the strongest of the piece and *Jarvis* is a millionaire in California. *Tevis* turns up, enters his room, and by the muzzle of a pistol obtains from him a confession of the plot against *Bert*. *Jarvis* shoots *Tevis* as he leaves the house. The latter forces the confession as he is dying from him, is going over the mountains, falls over him and is told where the confession is. *Bert* starts to find the paper and meets *Jarvis*, who is driving for the dead *Tevis*, a dreadful encounter takes place and *Bert* is left for dead on the mountain.

The last act brings most of the characters in some way to New York, and *Grace* is about to marry *Jarvis* from *Christ Methodist* church. *Bert* enters, produces the confession, and,to use the language of the synopsis, "All went merry as a marriage bell."

With this brief and necessarily somewhat incomplete statement of the material in the piece it will be seen that "Through Fire" belongs to the sensational order, and of the material the company make a merit. Gotthold should attend to his rendering of *Bert* so much earnestness and force that he makes of the character more than we could believe it possible to make. Some of the speeches which fail to his part are really good, and for these Mr. Campbell deserves much credit. Mr. Duffield, Mrs. Johnson, Georgia Dickson and Mr. Irving are all that could be desired in their several parts.

Mr. Campbell has, we think, erred in introducing too many characters into "Through Fire." The piece is, however, well brought out without anything he has ever done in the way of the drama, and his friends (and we are among them) must congratulate him upon this improvement. We assure him that our remarks on his production are given in the kindest spirit and for the purpose of showing him what we consider as mistakes, to the end that in future he may secure success by the due preservation of his unities and in the action of his dramas.

Last night Mr. Gotthold takes his benefit. Mr. G. is a finished actor, a scholar and a genial gentleman, and deserves well at the hands of those who have so faithfully served and for whom he has worked so hard. We trust that his merits will be recognized by a crowded house.

Fifth Avenue Opera House.

The performances at this theater for the present week have been, and will continue to be of the most enjoyable character. Mr. Leflingwell, who is the "star" attraction, is one of the best comedians of the day, and has long since made himself popular among us by the excellence of his acting and the numerous nature of his performances. Lovers of genuine amusement jaunted do better than visit Manager Beamer's establishment for an evening's fun and laughter. As the attendance is large every night, it will be remembered that seats can be secured at the box office.

To-night "A Victim of Circumstances" and that irresistibly funny bit of nonsense, "Romeo Jaffer Jenkins," will be given.

Library Hall.

Miss Coomba was greeted by a full house last night, and Bouncicault's comedy "London Assurance" was admirably given. The public are so familiar with this piece and with the fine acting of some of Miss Coomba that no extended remarks are necessary. Mr. Robinson as *Dazzle* and Mr. Bradley as *Sir Harcourt Courtley* gave a deep gauge of excellence with the public.

To-night "The Love Chase" will be produced. Those who have seen Miss Coombs and her company in the play will rejoice at the opportunity of seeing it again, while those who have not yet witnessed it may rely upon having a treat in store for them.

Trimble's Varieties.

The holiday bill at Trimble's was again given last night to a crowded house. To-night a change of bill will the new stars in new songs, acts and dances.

Italian Opera.

Under the direction of Messrs. Maurice and Max Strakosch we shall have two nights of Italian opera, on Friday and Saturday, January 5th and 6th, with Max Maretzek as musical director. The company is chiefly French, and will give us Italian opera as it is presented in Paris, where Nilsson was reared. Her performances, wonderful as they are in dramatic completeness, will be surrounded by those of a company containing some excellent material. Nilsson insists upon having every detail of her operas given with accuracy and completeness. Mons. Victor Capoul, the new French tenor, comes to us not only as a brilliant singer, but accredited as a dashing cavalier and also a brilliant and thorough artist. Miss Clary's success in opera proves that on the lyric stage she will be even more appreciated than she was in concerts.

The Planetelles.

At the Smithfield street M. E. Church, to-morrow evening, the great Planetelles, a combination of science and mechanism, representing, when in motion, the relative movements of a large number of the bodies belonging to the solar system, will be exhibited. In addition there will be shown photographic views of the more prominent mountains and scenery of the moon, the total solar eclipse of 1869, and many other things equally interesting, combining instruction and entertainment in an eminent degree, the whole interspersed with vocal music. The entertainment is given by Prof. J. Davis, of this city, a liberal share of the proceeds going to the church fund.

Mortuary Report.

Dr. J. Guy McCandless, Physician of the Board of Health,reports sixty-three deaths for the week ending December 24. The causes of death were as follows: Alcoholism, intemperance, 2; accident, 2: accident, by burn, 1; apoplexy, celebrel, 1; bronchitis, acute, 1; cancer, 1; consumption, 4 convulsions, 3; croup, 1; dropsy, general, 1; dropsey of the brain, 1; Erysipelas, 2; fever, typhus, 4; inflammation of brain and meningitis, 1; inflammation of the lungs, 1; inflammation of stomach, 2; inanition, 1; marasmus, 1; old age, 3; paralysis, 2; premature birth, 1; scrofula, 1; small pox, 17; spinal disease, 3; uræmia, 1; still births 5. Of the above there were under one year, 26; from one to two, 4; from two to five, 7; from five to ten, 1; from ten to fifteen, 3; from fifteen to twenty, 3; from twenty to thirty, 10; from thirty to forty, 4; from forty to fifty, 4; from fifty to sixty, 1; from sixty to seventy, 0; from seventy to eighty, 2; from eighty to ninety, 2; from ninety to one hundred, 2. Males, 44: females, 19; white, 62; colored, 1—total, 63.

The Robinson House.

The "Santa Claus dinner" at the Robinson House, on Christmas day, was a thorough success. The dining rooms were very tastefully decorated with wreathes and streamers of evergreen. The bill of fare provided for the occasion, by Col. R. Robinson included nearly one hundred different articles, all of the best qualities and prepared with the greatest taste and elegance. The steward, Mr. Phillip Ragers, and the pastry-cook of the house, Mr. Hoffman, received the praise of the guests in the most emphatic manner, while all united in bearing testimony to the generosity and liberality of the worthy host, Col. Robinson. The guests of the Robinson House will not soon forget the elegant repast given them on Christmas day; nor, indeed, the excellence of the Robinson House as a hotel, on all occasions.

The Hutchinson Concert.

No lover of really artistic music should fail to attend the concert given by this famous family of singers at the Second U. P. Church, Seventh avenue, to-night, for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A. Temperance Association. In addition to the varied musical excellences of their concerts, they are also marked by a moral purpose of the most elevated character. One of the family—John—has been before the country as a singer for more than twenty years, and is to-day as much endeared to the people generally probably as much endeared to the people generally as any public singer of the age. Those who fail to attend will miss the enjoyment of a delightful treat.

On Christmas afternoon at two o'clock, over seven hundred persons, large and small, assembled in the au dience room of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Temperanceville, to enjoy an elaborate musical entertainment, and a confectionary on Sunday School entertainment, during the unfolding of which the high expectation ns of all present were fully met. The exercises began promptly under the direction of the Superintendent, Samuel French, Esq., by singing "Scholars' Greeting Song," followed by prayer by Captain John A. Wood, delegate to the Electoral Conference.

Appropriate pieces were then recited by Misses Hattie Grace, Jennie Miller, Lydia Wood and Nannie Wilkinson, after exercises being enlivened by singing many "merry" Christmas hymns. A pleasant incident then occurred. John Hollingshead, Esq., leader of the choir, in a neat and well-timed speech, on behalf of the Sunday School presented Miss Ella Wood, the organist, an elegant Christmas gift, as an humble token of high appreciation of her efficiency and zeal in promoting church and Sunday School music, which was received in her behalf by Superintendent French, Esq., in a timely and beautiful response.

As a piece entitled "Kriss Kringle" was being sung, Mr. L. S. Jack came up one of the aisles dressed in antiquated disguise, laden with presents for the children. After a short stay he retired amid the applause of the vast crowd. On returning in his usual attire he was londly cheered, and being called upon, made a telling address.

The distribution of about seven hundred and fifty packages of sweetmeats closed the entertainment, for the success of which thanks are due to many earnest and self-sacrificing Sunday School workers.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

CHRISTMAS day was one of the most enjoyable of the season.

JURY trials will be resumed in our courts on next Tuesday.

THE prisoners at the county jail had no Christmas dinner.

MR. J. NEWTON GOTTHOLD will have his annual benefit at the Pittsburgh Opera House this evening.

THE Alumni of the Western University hold their semi-annual meeting to-morrow evening.

THIRTY-two cases of various kinds before Mayor Brush yesterday morning.

THE Robinson House dining-rooms were handsomely dressed with evergreens on Christmas day.

SQUIRE SCHMOLZE, of Ormsby borough is suffering from the small pox.

ONE of the new cars for the Mt. Oliver inclined plane was received yesterday. It is very handsome.

THE Mayor yesterday fined Albert Steel $20 for attempting to kick open the door of a Third avenue residence, on Christmas evening.

SAMUEL K. MULLEN is wanted at the office of Alderman McMasters, to answer a charge of assaulting, kicking and beating J. H. O'Reilly. A warrant was issued for Mullen's arrest.

SELLING liquors without a license and to minors, are the charges preferred by Mary Malone, against James McDermott, before Alderman McMasters. A warrant issued.

WILLIAM FRICKER, who took French leave from the workhouse some days ago, was yesterday apprehended and sent back to the institution for sixty days, by Mayor Brush.

ROBT. MCWADE, whose Rip Van Winkle is favorably remembered by the sufferers, will be at the Fifth Avenue Theater next week. Manager Beamer is getting the piece up in excellent style.

ON Christmas day, John Robinson, Esq., of the Aliequippa Tribe, No. 58, Red Men, paid over to Mayor Brush $100 for the relief of the sufferers. The tribe also contributed $100 for the Northwestern sufferers.

FORTY-FOUR dollars and twenty-five cents was left with Mayor Brush, yesterday, by the Rev. John Cornthers, pas or of the congregation at Rockbridge, Indiana Co., Pa., for the relief of the sufferers by fire in the Northwest.

ALDERMAN MCMASTERS issued a warrant yesterday for the arrest of Wm. Shore, who is charged by R. H. Long with embezzling the sum of $39, the price of a washing machine, collected for the prosecutor by the defendant, but not paid over.

MICHAEL CONNOLLY complained to Alderman McMasters yesterday that Edward Connolly had challenged him to fight, and that there was danger of Edward assaulting him at any moment. A warrant was issued.

BEFORE the Mayor, yesterday, there was a preliminary hearing in the case of the man Dickson, who shot and seriously injured young Shaw at the National Hotel a few days ago. The defendant was committed for a further hearing.

ON TUESDAY afternoon a lad named Edward Hazlett accidentally shot himself through the hand with a revolver, near the residence of his parents, in the Seventh ward. It is feared that amputation will prove necessary.

BEFORE Alderman Koenig, yesterday, Adam Hunmel made an information against Edward Duggen, charging him with assault and battery. A similar charge was made against the same defendant by R. Lynch. The accused was arrested and held for a hearing.

THERE was a rumor current last night that a number of boys who had been skating on the Allegheny, opposite Herr's Island, had been drowned by the breaking of the ice. The police telegraph failed to give us any particulars of such an occurrence, which makes it improbable.

AT Grace Lutheran Church, Birmingham, Rev. J. K. Melhorn, the pastor, was the recipient of a very handsome gown, and Mr. Carrol Duff, the organist, with a silver watch and chain. The children came in for their regular holiday treat. Each occasion proved particularly happy.

THE Rev. Mr. Cattell, pastor of the South Pittsburgh Baptist Church, was the recipient of several valuable presents on Christmas, among them a copy of "Great Thoughts by Great Authors," the gift of the Rev. P. S. Davies, of the E. B. Presbyterian Church. The children of the Sabbath School had a grand treat in the afternoon.

LAST evening the effects of Mrs. Clark, who committed suicide on the Union Depot, Wednesday months ago, was disposed of by Mr. A. McIlwain, the auctioneer. Not a single article passed plain goldring, together with a diamond brooch and pin sold for $700. The jewelry referred to had been pawned by Mrs. Clark previous to her husband's death and was redeemed by the parties having in charge the estate settlement of the unfortunate lady.

AT eleven o'clock on Christmas morning the Third Presbyterian Church, Sixth avenue, was the scene of a Sabbath festival which proved a grand success. Rev. F. A. Noble and Mr. H. K. Porter addressed the audience. The pastor, Dr. Hall, presented with appropriate gifts, consisting of bibles and other books, pen-knives, toys, candies, &c., generously provided by the scholars of the Sabbath School by the congregation.

ON Christmas morning there was a very large attendance at the Sabbath School scholars and teachers of the First Presbyterian Church in the audience room of the latter. Religious exercises were indulged in by the assemblage, addresses appropriate to the occasion being delivered by the Rev. Dr. Scovel, pastor of the church, and Mr. Johnston, Esq. The children, nearly two hundred in number, were all provided with boxes of candy. The occasion was highly enjoyable, and all present appeared to be greatly delighted.

ALLEGHENY.

HUGH GAVEN and Robert McAlister were before the Mayor last evening on a charge of reckless driving, and were fined ten dollars and costs.

CITY ELECTRICIAN ROGERS, who has been confined to his home several weeks on account of illness, has so far recovered as to be able to attend to business.

ON Monday afternoon, two horses attached to a country wagon, took fright on Federal street, and ran away. They were stopped in front of Semple's dry goods store, and the wagon was hurled with such force as to chip the corner from the stone columns separating the two rooms, and in no way grazed the glass.

ASSESSOR ENGLE entered suit before the Mayor on yesterday against Donald Flockinghein, charging him with malicious mischief in cutting down trees that were growing on property in default of $1,000 bail he was committed to jail for his appearance at court. Chris. Beckert was charged with the same offense, and was also committed for trial.

MICHAEL MCNAMARA attacked Michael Boylar, an employee at the car shades, and drew out a dirk knife, with which he struck him on the head, inflicting an ugly gash. An information for assault and battery was lodged against him, when he was arrested, and after a hearing, in default of $1,000, committed for trial at Court.

THE services on Christmas morning in the Penitentiary were unusually interesting. All the prisoners were assembled at nine o'clock, in the chapel. On the platform was seated Captain O. Phillips, who as a member of the Board of Inspectors, takes a deep interest in promoting reform. The Warden, Captain E. S. Wright, and Rev. Father Lynch, P. J. Milligan, were also present in their places. The services were opened by the prison choir, with Miss Fannie Wright presiding at the organ, and Mr. Alfred Slack leading the music. Miss S. R. Dermitt sang some touching appropriate songs, after which selections of Scripture were read and pertinent remarks made by the Chaplain.

Cutting Affray.

On Monday afternoon a cutting affray occurred in front of the Raftsman's Home, at Woods Run, John Gap, who had been imbibing freely, met one of his acquaintances, John McMinn, in front of the hotel, when a quarrel ensued, resulting in Gap drawing a knife and stabbed McMinn in the fleshy part of the right leg, inflicting a very painful wound. He made a direct thrust with the knife, and then pulled the weapon from the wound, a deep gash extending nearly to the abdomen. As soon as the cutting was done he threw the knife away, and having a loaded gun in his possession threatened to shoot any persons who should interfere with him. Mr. Patton, proprietor of the house, seized and disarmed him, and then conveyed him to the lock-up. Mr. Patton then preferred a charge of assault and battery against him. He had a hearing last evening, and in default of $2,000 bail, was committed for trial. Evan Hall also preferred a charge of aggravated assault and battery against him, and in default of $1,000 bail, was committed on this charge also.

SOUTH SIDE.

ITEMS IN BRIEF.

THE Juniata boat club gave a ball at Turner hall, Birmingham, Christmas evening, which was largely attended. All present had an enjoyable time.

ONE of the new cars for the Mount Oliver Inclined Plane was received yesterday. The cars are similar in appearance to those of the Mount Washington Inclined Plane, but are a little larger.

JANE CRAIG preferred a charge of assault and battery before Justice Heiser yesterday against Richard Rollings, alleging that the accused struck her sister, a girl aged thirteen years. The usual papers were made out.

WM. BYERS visited the office of Justice Heisel on yesterday, and made an information against Wm. Monaschine for keeping a ferocious dog, alleging that the animal attacked him on the street recently. The accused was arrested and fined ten dollars and costs.

ON Monday evening, quite a serious affray occurred in a saloon in Ormsby borough. During the progress of the fight one of the party drew a revolver and fired, the ball taking effect in the hip of a man named Frederick Hertz. Franz Kimmins also received severe injuries. Yesterday informations were made before Justice Heisel against Frederick Ekard and John Shlegel, and warrants were issued for their arrest.

A FURIOUSLY occurred Monday afternoon between Rentz Ward and Nicholas Alderbrand, at Brownstown, when Ward drew a a revolver and fired, but missed his aim. He attempted to shoot again at Alderbrand, when, through a careless handling of the weapon, it was discharged, the ball entering completely taking off his forefinger. He was removed to his home near by, when a physician was summoned who dressed his injuries.

GEORGE SCHAEB, proprietor of the Farmers' Hotel, Carson street, Birmingham, met with a severe accident Sunday evening last. While driving, in company with a young man, along the Brownsville road, the horses became unmanagable, and slanted off in a gallop. The buggy was upset, throwing Mr. Schaef and his companion to the ground. Mr. Schaefer slighted on his head, when the vehicle passed over him. He received a severe gash on his head and a number of bruises about the body. He was removed to his home, where his injuries were dressed by Dr. Heller. The young man escaped uninjured.

Ormsby Borough Sanitary Committee.

The Sanitary Committee of Ormsby borough held a regular weekly meeting last evening. Members present: Messrs. Larimer, Rafferty, Johnston, Triplet, Saukens, Acker.

Mr. Connolly, from the Committee appointed to ascertain the condition of the small-pox, reported that there had been five cases since the first. Two cases are now under treatment. There were no new cases the past week.

Mr. Connolly also reported that there had been fifty-nine cases of small-pox since spring.

After transacting some routine business, the meeting adjourned.

PROBABLE MURDER.

A Man's Head Beaten to a Jelly—The Perpetrator of the Deed Surrenders Himself.

A serious affray occurred near Six-mile run ferry, on Monday night, by which John Mahoney received injuries which will likely prove fatal. About six o'clock, John Carmichael called in officer McCoy, or Ormsby borough, and stated that he desired to surrender himself, as he had killed a man. He had received in the affray a severe wound in the shoulder, and was bleeding freely. The officer conveyed him to the lock-up, and then proceeded to the scene of conflict by the prisoner, when he found a man lying in a gutter near the river, with his head literally beaten into a jelly. The officer had the wounded man removed to his home, when Drs. Duff and Pollock were summoned. Upon examination, the physicians discovered fifteen gashes on his tios, the physicians discovered fifteen gashes on his head, which had apparently been made with the edge of a hatchet. The skull was also fractured by the injuries received. The doctors proceeded to dress the injuries, and found it necessary to remove twenty-seven pieces of the skull. After the injuries of the wounded man had been properly attended to, the physicians dressed the injuries sustained by Carmichael, which were found to be slight.

Carmichael was then called upon to state the cause of the affray. He says he was passing a boarding house when he was assailed by the injured man. He threw a stone at the latter, and parried one. He had walked but a short distance when two or three persons rushed out of the house and seized him, and he was compelled to go into the house to treat. When there he was again assailed after having treated the crowd. He hastily seized, and endeavored to escape. When he reached the door he observed Mahoney following him up the hill, pistol in hand. He says he backed out of the door as rapidly as possible, but before he reached the ground he received a blow from the hatchet, which cut through his clothing and made a deep gash on his right arm. In his efforts to escape a second blow aimed at his head he fell over a pile of boards. Mahoney followed him, and was in the act of striking another blow when he seized him and succeeded in pulling him down. He then secured the hatchet and proceeded to beat Mahoney on the head until he thought he was dead. He says he acted in self-defense, and that but for the accidental turn in his favor, Mahoney would have killed him.

Mahoney is an employee in the P. V. & C. Railroad, and is about thirty-one years of age and unmarried. Carmichael is still in the lock-up awaiting the result of Mahoney's injuries. The physicians entertain no hopes for his recovery.

South Pittsburgh Council.

A regular monthly meeting of South Pittsburgh Councils was held last evening in the office of Justice Barker. Members present: Messrs. Cassiday, Brown, Kerr, Moorhead and Smargrold.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The following bills for the month were read, and warrants ordered to be drawn for their payment: Streets, $97 51; Police, $110 00; Public Lamps, $15 00; Fire Department, $53 25; total, $275 76.

THIRTY-two cases of various kinds before Mayor Brush yesterday morning.

THE Robinson House dining-rooms were handsomely dressed with evergreens on Christmas day.

SQUIRE SCHMOLZE, of Ormsby borough is suffering from the small pox.

ONE of the new cars for the Mt. Oliver inclined plane was received yesterday. It is very handsome.

THE Mayor yesterday fined Albert Steel $20 for attempting to kick open the door of a Third avenue residence, on Christmas evening.

SAMUEL K. MULLEN is wanted at the office of Alderman McMasters, to answer a charge of assaulting, kicking and beating J. H. O'Reilly. A warrant was issued for Mullen's arrest.

SELLING liquors without a license and to minors, are the charges preferred by Mary Malone, against James McDermott, before Alderman McMasters. A warrant issued.

WILLIAM FRICKER, who took French leave from the workhouse some days ago, was yesterday apprehended and sent back to the institution for sixty days, by Mayor Brush.

ROBT. MCWADE, whose Rip Van Winkle is favorably remembered by the sufferers, will be at the Fifth Avenue Theater next week. Manager Beamer is getting the piece up in excellent style.

ON Christmas day, John Robinson, Esq., of the Aliequippa Tribe, No. 58, Red Men, paid over to Mayor Brush $100 for the relief of the sufferers. The tribe also contributed $100 for the Northwestern sufferers.

FORTY-FOUR dollars and twenty-five cents was left with Mayor Brush, yesterday, by the Rev. John Cornthers, pas or of the congregation at Rockbridge, Indiana Co., Pa., for the relief of the sufferers by fire in the Northwest.

ALDERMAN MCMASTERS issued a warrant yesterday for the arrest of Wm. Shore, who is charged by R. H. Long with embezzling the sum of $39, the price of a washing machine, collected for the prosecutor by the defendant, but not paid over.

MICHAEL CONNOLLY complained to Alderman McMasters yesterday that Edward Connolly had challenged him to fight, and that there was danger of Edward assaulting him at any moment. A warrant was issued.

BEFORE the Mayor, yesterday, there was a preliminary hearing in the case of the man Dickson, who shot and seriously injured young Shaw at the National Hotel a few days ago. The defendant was committed for a further hearing.

ON TUESDAY afternoon a lad named Edward Hazlett accidentally shot himself through the hand with a revolver, near the residence of his parents, in the Seventh ward. It is feared that amputation will prove necessary.

BEFORE Alderman Koenig, yesterday, Adam Hunmel made an information against Edward Duggen, charging him with assault and battery. A similar charge was made against the same defendant by R. Lynch. The accused was arrested and held for a hearing.

THERE was a rumor current last night that a number of boys who had been skating on the Allegheny, opposite Herr's Island, had been drowned by the breaking of the ice. The police telegraph failed to give us any particulars of such an occurrence, which makes it improbable.

AT Grace Lutheran Church, Birmingham, Rev. J. K. Melhorn, the pastor, was the recipient of a very handsome gown, and Mr. Carrol Duff, the organist, with a silver watch and chain. The children came in for their regular holiday treat. Each occasion proved particularly happy.

THE Rev. Mr. Cattell, pastor of the South Pittsburgh Baptist Church, was the recipient of several valuable presents on Christmas, among them a copy of "Great Thoughts by Great Authors," the gift of the Rev. P. S. Davies, of the E. B. Presbyterian Church. The children of the Sabbath School had a grand treat in the afternoon.

LAST evening the effects of